THE VALLEY PATRIOT
"Congress shall make no law..."
valleypatriot.com
2004 CELEBRATING 16+ YEARS OF NEWS & VIEWS 2021
A NEW ENGLAND PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER
JANUARY, 2021
VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1
Edition #207

BORRELLI'S Italian Deli
borrellisdeli.com

Climate Design Systems, llc
Heating • Ventilation • Air Conditioning
(844) 385-1883 www.climatedesignsystems.com
Save up to $1,600 In Rebates
LENNOX
Financing Available!
Exclusions apply. See Dealer website for details.
Expires 2/22/21

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
Methuen & North Andover

Lawrence Hits the Lottery

Pages: 10

State Treasurer Deb Goldberg has announced that the State Lottery's North Shore Operations and Prize Center will be relocated to the Stadium Plaza on Rt. 114 in Lawrence.

I N D E X

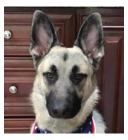
Al Kaprielian
Page 4

Vets..............................1,9,12,17,18
Editorial.................................2
State..................................2,4,16,17
Methuen............3,4,5,8-10,12,23
Notebook.............................6-7
Winston Says...............................6
Health..................................8
Lawrence.............................11
Andover.................................13
Dracut..................................16
Haverhill................................17
Books...................................18
Religion/Morality....................20

IN YOUR CORNER
Sen. DiZoglio
PAGE 3

Brian Genest
Dracut
PAGE 16

Bill Cushing
TV TALK
PAGE 19



Kane
PAGE 7

VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

US Navy Seabee & Boston Police Officer James LaCroix

John Cuddy
VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

"A Camping Trip with Automatic Weapons"

"A camping trip with automatic weapons", that is how Hyde Park native and Boston Police Officer James LaCroix described his service in Bosnia with the US Navy Seabees as an Equipment Operator 3rd Class. James is not the only family member who served in the US Navy, his wife Dawn, also served. Dawn LaCroix was originally from Michigan and served as at Storekeeper 3rd Class. They met and got married while both Sailors were stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. So, I started my interview with asking James "Jimbo" LaCroix what his most interesting experience was while serving.

In 1995 the conflict in Bosnia was winding down, and the UN peacekeepers required Seabee support. James at the time, was on deployment to the Mediterranean with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133's Detachment Sigonella, Sicily, in Italy. James was re-deployed to Bosnia as part of a peacekeeping operation. The Seabees were being asked to construct basic shelter and cooking facilities for the United Nations troops, that were tasked to patrol a two and a half mile, "zone of separation". This created a buffer zone between the opposing Bosnian militias, that signed the November 1995 Bosnian Peace Treaty. The detachment of Seabees was commanded by US Navy Lt. Commander Doug Morton, CEC, (who later retired as a Rear Admiral after serving our nation for thirty-three years) The Seabees landed at Taszar, in southern Hungary, and traveled overland to the Sava River. There, US Army engineers built a 1,000-foot floating bridge that served as the first land link to Bosnia for the main body of U.S. Troops.

James served with two Equipment Operator Second Class's Mark Thomas and Mike Neumann in Bosnia. On an earlier deployment, I had the pleasure of serving with both men on a re-deployment from Guam to El Salvador. Both Neumann and Thomas later retired as US Navy Master Chiefs, the highest enlisted rank in the Navy. The four of us became lifelong friends and reunited for Master Chief Thomas's retirement. Tragically, Master Chief Neumann, a Cross Fit instructor, died shortly after retiring from the Navy.

When I asked, James's wife, Dawn LaCroix, what the most interesting memory of her US Naval service was, she immediately answered; "clearing ordnance from the US Navy's bombing range at Detachment Astor". Dawn was assigned (with her future husband) to the Navy's Pinecastle Impact (Bombing) Range, which is in the Ocala National Forest near Orlando, Florida. The Pinecastle Bombing Range is an un-fenced 5,760-acre area, with the eastern edge of the range located about two miles west of State Road 19 and the Camp

HERO: PAGE 18

Four Star LIGHTING & ELECTRIC INC.
Installing / Repairing / Replacing:
Lighting • Circuits & Wiring • Service Upgrade • Generators
Residential Smoke Detectors
24-HOUR SCHEDULING
Now Hiring Electricians
Fully Licensed & Insured
Search Light Rentals
FourStarLighting.net • 978-851-4900

McConnell, D.C. Republicans Are a Disgrace

Senate President Mitch McConnell and his Republican colleagues in Washington, D.C. are a disgrace to our country.

Since March of last year, millions of Americans have been out of work because of government imposed shut-downs. In the first nine months of the Covid crisis the best our congress could do for the American people was give everyone a $600 stimulus check.

That's $18.75 a week while suicides spiked (including teen suicides), opioid addiction, alcoholism, and severe depression soared higher than ever before, and as millions of small business owners lost their life savings.

With all of that, the best congress could do is give you less than $20 a week of your own tax money to live on.

Pathetic.

In the last week of the year, congress once again decided to throw crumbs to the little people and approved another $600 per person stimulus check.

Why so little?

Because Senate President Mitch McConnell and his republican colleagues in Washington D.C. are very concerned about the debt we are imposing on our grandchildren. They are so fiscally responsible that even in the worst pandemic in American history they just couldn't spend more than $600 per person.

Mind you, congressmen and senators never missed a paycheck during these mandatory closures and lockdowns. Some of them jetted off to exotic places while telling the rest of us not to travel. Others dined at exclusive restaurants while the rest of us are scrambling to pay grocery bills.

Then, Democrats in congress - at the urging of President Trump - passed an additional stimulus that would increase the $600 check to $2,000 for every American. But, Mitch McConnell and the republicans in D.C. attached unrelated legislation to that bill knowing that Democrats could never support it, thereby killing the proposal because, the debt is just too high, and you know ... for the children of the future.

Yet, Mitch McConnell and the D.C. republicans had no problem shipping trillions of our tax dollars to Egypt, Pakistan, and other nations, for border security, gender studies and other foolishness.

McConnell and the republicans never worried for one second about borrowing that money on the backs of our grandchildren. They weren't concerned even a little, about being "fiscally conservative".

No, when it comes to spending our money on citizens of other governments, the GOP is all too eager to run up more debt like their democrat colleagues.

The money that congress spends belongs to the American people and our needs must come first. Shame on the D.C. republicans for forgetting that.

State Legislature Extended 2020 Session to Get More Done During Pandemic

Rep. Linda Dean Campbell
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The State Legislature extended its two-year session past the usual July 31st end date in order to continue legislating during the pandemic. While we have accomplished a great deal, so much remains to be done to continue state funding of critical services related to the pandemic, pass important legislation, support cities and towns, and ensure that our businesses and restaurants stay afloat, as so many are seriously struggling.

The Budget: The Legislature recently passed a state budget and is continuing to vote to override the Governor's budget vetoes so that we can preserve critical funding – more info on this soon to come. The budget prioritizes help for cities and towns struggling with additional costs associated with the pandemic, prevents some evictions, and provides help for an increasing population suffering from homelessness and food insecurity. By drawing from federal relief funds and the Commonwealth's rainy-day fund, we were able to pass a budget in these difficult economic times without raising taxes.

The Roe Amendment: I voted against the Roe Amendment to the budget because it made it possible for sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds to obtain an abortion without notification of a parent or guardian. We already have laws in place for judicial intervention in exceptional circumstances where that might be necessary, for example in cases of abuse.

A parent has legal responsibility for their child until they become eighteen. When a child needs virtually any other type of medical procedure, the parent or guardian is responsible for approving and paying for these medical procedures. The Roe Amendment opens up a whole new set of legal questions in terms of when a child becomes an adult able to legally make medical and other important decisions for themselves without consulting with their legally responsible parent or guardian.

In the overwhelming majority of cases, we owe a parent or guardian "the opportunity" to have a conversation with a child about one of the most important and consequential life-altering events in their life. The judicial override process is provided to handle the exceptions to this norm, so why are we now addressing the few exceptional cases at the expense of families?

Lots of Work Ahead: Many important bills were understandably delayed to make room for legislation pertaining to the pandemic, including an economic development bill; a transportation bond bill; a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) notification bill I filed that is even more important now that COVID-19 is present in our wastewater; and many others. As of this writing, many of these bills are still being debated with the goal of being finalized before the new session.

I am proud that the Massachusetts Legislature was the first in the country to establish the technical capacity to continue its important work remotely – and that critical legislating is full steam ahead.

Resources: Anyone needing assistance is encouraged to call my office at (617) 722-2380 and provide your phone number and email so that we may get back to you. If you need **food assistance**, the Project Bread Hotline can connect you to local resources: 1-800-645-8333. If you need **housing or rent assistance**, contact Community Teamwork at (978) 459-0551. If you need **fuel assistance**, contact Community Teamwork's Fuel Assistance Program at (978) 459-6161 or the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council at (978) 681-4950. To apply for **unemployment assistance**, visit www.mass.gov/unemployment. If you need **health insurance**, you can review your options through MassHealth and the Health Connector by applying at www.mahealthconnector.org. To find a **free COVID-19 testing site**, visit www.mass.gov/stopthespread. If you are experiencing a **mental health crisis**, call or text Samaritans at (877) 870-4673. For **other questions or resources**, call the state's resource hotline at 2-1-1.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature and serves as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. She can be reached at Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2380.

Mobile Magic by Bryan
Photography
&Videograpy
978-390-2351
MobileMagicByBryan.com

The Valley Patriot is published monthly before the tenth of each month by The Valley Patriot, Inc., 75 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845.
All contents Copyright (c) 2020, Valley Patriot, Inc. All rights reserved.
Subscriptions are $60 per year and sent via U.S. Mail.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Valley Patriot, Inc., PO Box 453, North Andover, MA 01845.

Letters to the editor, columns and op/eds can be submitted to **valleypatriot@aol**.com. The Valley Patriot is not responsible for the opinions expressed in submitted letters or columns. It is the policy of The Valley Patriot not to edit or exclude submitted material based on content.

***PHONE:* (978) 771-4091**
www.valleypatriot.com

News tips: Send anonymous news-tips to valleypatriot@aol.com. We respect the anonymity of our sources if requested.

President/Publisher: Tom Duggan, Jr.
SALES: (978) 771-4091

Corrections: Please contact the editors at ***valleypatriot@aol.com***

The Valley Patriot can be found in more than 800 locations in 48 communities in Massachusetts and NH.

The Valley Patriot is not responsible for, nor do we necessarily share the opinions of columnists and contributors that are published in the paper. Columns, by definition, are opinion pieces.

The Valley Patriot is printed by Graphic Development in West Hanover, Mass.

Local daily news updates online at valleypatriot.com or facebook.com/valleypatriot

A Look Back as We Celebrate the New Year

IN YOUR CORNER with SENATOR DIZOGLIO

Hello Valley Patriot Readers,

2020 was a challenging year to say the least, with our communities facing hardships that COVID-19 brought to our economy, families, health care system and many other facets of our lives. At the same time, it was amazing to see the people of the Merrimack Valley come together during an unprecedented time to look out for one another, lend a helping hand and let their friends, family and neighbors know they are not alone.

In the Legislature, we spent much of the session fighting to increase testing, access to personal protective equipment (PPE), medical care and coverage, and resources for our first responders. Simultaneously, we worked to address challenges faced by our hospitals, public safety departments, homeless shelters, schools, daycares and beyond - along with the challenges faced by all people each sector has employed or served.

Including measures around COVID-19, we made progress on a host of issues in this legislative session.

Increasing Transparency and Accountability in Our Government

The Governor signed into law **campaign finance reform** I sponsored to bolster transparency and accountability in the Commonwealth's public elections. Up to this point, the Legislature and some mayoral candidates have been exempt from the law that requires statewide, county and many other municipal candidates use of the depository reporting system. The new law seeks to remedy this disparity by requiring all legislative and mayoral candidates in Massachusetts begin participating in the system.

Supporting Our Small Businesses

Our small business community has this year faced one challenge after another in working to remain afloat during the pandemic.

One of my top priorities early in the emergency was legislation I sponsored to **expand takeout and delivery options for restaurants** in Massachusetts. Our mom and pop establishments desperately continue to need additional revenue and I am grateful to my colleagues in the Legislature for their support and to Governor Baker for ultimately signing it into law.

I am also continuing to push legislation I sponsored, An Act providing COVID-19 emergency financial relief for veterans, to provide one-time **emergency grants to Massachusetts veterans** suffering financial loss due to COVID-19.

Both the recently passed **Fiscal Year 2021 Budget** and earlier **COVID-19 supplemental budget** include key funding designed to help local businesses, including resources toward economic development; matching grants for capital investments by small businesses; the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund; and small business grants dedicated to veteran, minority, and women-owned businesses in underserved areas.

The Senate also this year passed the **ENDURE Act,** an economic recovery and development bill providing supports to small businesses and investments in infrastructure, including capital spending to spur investments in housing and the local economy and assist our tourism and cultural sectors. The bill additionally bolsters funding to the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation's matching grant program.

There remains, however, much work to be done and I am committed to doing all I can to support our local businesses as we approach the next legislative session, including pushing for comprehensive legislation I filed, the **MassMakers Act**, to strengthen the vitality, prosperity and diversity of our small businesses in Massachusetts.

Protecting Our Environment

Something I have been deeply involved with since the start of this legislative session is getting the **Merrimack River District Commission** up and running, bringing together stakeholders from all along the Merrimack River — experts, elected officials and environmental groups, among others — to address issues around pollution, including discharge from combined sewer overflows (CSOs).

While numerous stakeholders have concerns for the river, we have never convened a diverse group of experts from various sectors to work together, agree on the basic facts, and advise the legislature on how to proceed to restore our majestic Merrimack River so that it may be here for future generations to explore and

DIZOGLIO: PAGE 18

METHUENCARES
One Community—United.
Neighbors helping neighbors in Methuen!
Your donations of paper goods or shelf-stable items (pasta, rice, potatoes, beans) are appreciated. Thank you.
If you'd like to donate or have questions, please call 978-609-1866.

New Year Brings Same Old Political Nonsense

Brian Genest
DRACUT COLUMNIST

It's a Happy New Year at the Massachusetts State House. State legislators are kicking off 2021 with another pay hike. Talk about a kick in the teeth for taxpayers!

Apparently, our state representatives and senators have done such an incredible job, they're getting a 6.46% raise during the worldwide pandemic. Meanwhile, the state's unemployment rate was in the double digits for five months last year and businesses continue to be closed and restricted. But we're all in this together, right?

Governor-turned-Emperor Charlie Baker, who has shut down just about everything except Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito's lake party, says the increase for lawmakers is warranted. With holidays and everything else now cancelled and thousands of jobs across Massachusetts evaporating, a pay raise for politicians is, naturally, right on the money.

Starting this month, the annual base pay for legislators goes up to $70,536, an increase of $4,280. Nice work, if you can get it.

You may remember: Lawmakers got a 5.93% increase at the start of the 2019-2020 session. Before that, they got a 4.2% increase at the start of the 2017-2018 session, when they voted to raise their own pay and stipends for committee chairs and legislative leaders. They also voted to pay themselves to drive to work, giving every lawmaker an annual travel expense budget ranging from $15,000 to $20,000 per year. Finally, the law they passed in 2017 also included "adjusting" their pay every two years. Of course, they'd probably like you to forget.

According to the State House News Service: "Though Massachusetts differs from many other states with its full-time Legislature, many lawmakers also hold outside jobs to supplement their incomes." Translation: It's a part time job, but we're paying them a full-time salary, while they earn a second salary on our dime. They're laughing all the way to the bank, even while so many in Massachusetts face uncertain financial futures. But we're all in this together, right?

Here's another question: will Dracut's elected state officials—Rep. Colleen Garry and Sen. Barry Finegold—take the money or refuse the pay raise, given the current circumstances?

Speaking of which, here's what state legislators have been doing lately to "earn" this salary increase: tying the hands of our police officers and making policing political. On the last day of 2020, the governor signed a controversial police reform bill. Baker called the legislation one of the best laws in the nation; considering he's overseen a state police force with the types of scandals you'd expect in Tijuana, you should probably take that categorization lightly.

Among other provisions, the law prohibits officers from using chokeholds on out-of-control, drug-crazed maniacs trying to kill them and limits the use of rubber bullets, tear gas and dogs to defend

NONSENSE: NEXT PAGE

FOR ALL YOUR ESTATE PLANNING NEEDS
DIANNE M. O'BRIEN
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
I'm a very well-qualified Estate Planning attorney who will make the process quick, easy, and convenient for you – meeting with you in your home if you wish.
• Wills • Trusts
• Health Care Proxies
• Powers of Attorney
• Living Wills
• Probate
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION
Former Officer in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps – 8 Years
800 Turnpike Street, Ste. 300
North Andover, Ma 01845
978-794-5515
Flat Fees
For Estate Planning Services
www.attorneyobrien.com

WEATHER 101 with AL KAPRIELIAN

First Full Month of Winter

Happy New Year and welcome to January 2021 and the first full month of the winter season. Now that the winter solstice is past us we will continue to see the days growing longer with increasing daylight as we go through January. The nights will also continue to get shorter this month. January is known as the coldest month of the year. Time will tell if it lives up to its reputation for being the coldest month.

There is a month's lag after the winter solstice in the coldest month. Recapping December we saw a Roller Coaster month in terms of temperatures. We saw some days that were quite cold and then some days with warm temperatures in the 50s and even low 60s. During the first week in December we saw a storm on December 5th. Many areas started as just plain rain as there was no arctic air prior to the storm moving into our region. With the great intensity of the storm it made its own cold air and we saw the rain change to a heavy wet snow. Many areas, especially away from the coast, saw several inches of heavy wet snow. Some power outages occurred due to the heavy and wet nature of the snow.

After this storm we finally saw arctic air from Canada move into the region by the middle of December with arctic air fully entrenched into New England. On the evening of December 16th, low pressure approached and passed just offshore of Cape Cod on December 17th. With arctic air over our region, this storm was all snow away from the immediate coast including Cape Cod and the Islands.

Due to the arctic air, the snow was dry and fluffy (powdery) in contrast to the heavy wet snow which occurred on December 5th. The fluffy or powdery snow helped prevent power outages in having less of an impact to trees and power lines in contrast to a heavy wet snowfall. However, fluffy snow can adhere more to the ground and cause very slippery conditions on the roads. Parts of Massachusetts saw over a foot of snow. Some amounts were: East Hawley 20" in Franklin County, MA, Waltham 16", Sudbury 14.7", Lowell 15.2", Dracut and North Reading 13.5", Natick 13", Wayland 12.8", Tewksbury 13.7", Cambridge 13.4",

Lexington 13.3", Winchester 13.2" these towns in Middlesex County, MA. In Essex County, MA there were high amounts of snow, Salem and Ipswich 15", Swampscott 12", Beverly 14", Lynn 13.6", Gloucester 13,

Methuen 12.5", Haverhill and Topsfield 12.5 ", Marblehead 12.7', Saugus 14.5". On Cape Cod the upper Cape saw the most snow with East Sandwich getting 7.7", while in sharp contrast Provincetown only got .5"

In New Hampshire, the heaviest snow occurred in the central part of the state where the bands of heavy snow became stationary for a while. Remember, fluffy snow can accumulate more quickly than heavy wet snow due to the fluff factor. Fluffy snow contains less water than the heavy wet snow. Some snow amounts in NH: Croydon 44", Sanbornton 42.4", Springfield 42", Andover 40", Claremont 37", Grantham 38", Franklin 36", Gilford and Meredith 39", New Hampton 37", Belmont 24", Gilmanton 27.5", Concord 24.2" this was a new record for most snow in a single day for Concord the old record was 24.0" on March 12, 1888. In southern New Hampshire, where the bands were more progressive, snowfall amounts were not quite as high.

New Boston and Manchester 14", Londonderry 16". After this storm ended the landscape was excellent for taking pictures showing a winter landscape. You would think after all the snow from this storm it would last and be on the ground for Christmas Day. However, by going through weather extremes this would not be the case. Low Pressure passes west of our region Christmas Eve into Christmas Day causing heavy rain and temperatures of 60 degrees and higher in some areas. This caused most, if not all the snow cover, to be gone by Christmas morning. Many areas just saw piles of snow from the plows which was all just about left.

It's amazing how one storm with heavy rain, warm temperatures and high dewpoints can eat away at a pretty deep snowpack. The strongest winds were along coastal areas from coastal Essex county southward through Boston southeast coastal MA and Cape Cod & the Islands. Duxbury, MA had a wind gust to 68mph on Christmas Day. Over inland areas of MA, and also including interior NH, there was an inversion which prevented the very strong winds in the upper atmosphere from mixing to the ground. So these areas were spared numerous power outages. Most of the power outages on Christmas Day were along coastal areas with the strong winds. An inversion occurs when there is warm air as you go up in the atmosphere with cool to chilly air at ground level. The deep snowpack prior to Christmas may have helped the inversion not to break over areas farther inland from the coast keeping the strong winds aloft.

Even though we were on the east side (warmer side) of the Christmas Day storm, areas west of the storm were on the cold side of the storm. The cold side saw heavy snow with some areas; example, in Ohio getting close to two feet of snow. The cold front associated with the storm moved through and brought much colder air the day after Christmas. 2020 ended on a dry and quiet note with no arctic air as an active jet stream was coming in off the Pacific Ocean which is less cold.

This has an effect on the arctic air in Canada as well. Will this continue in January??

Stay tuned to next month's article!! In the meantime stay safe and well!! ◊

Tomorrow's Eagle~Tribune
Stories ... TODAY!
Call for our On-line Ad rates 978-771-4091 * valleypatriot@aol.com

Mayor Perry's Monthly Report

Exclusively for The Valley Patriot

Neil Perry
METHUEN MAYOR

PERRY: PAGE 8

Proud Sponsor of the Methuen Mayor's Report

We wish for healing, resiliency, and peace within our communities during these trying times.

Proudly Offering Since 1999...

- Call Center Solutions
- Outsourced Customer Care
- Accounts Receivable Management

CALL TODAY: 843-568-0078

FHC
F.H. CANN & ASSOCIATES
Respect | Care | Recovery
www.FHCann.com

*Certified woman-owned/family operated organization.

NONSENSE: FROM PAGE 4

themselves and us. Do you feel safer yet?

The law also establishes the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission. An independent state agency with the power to establish policing standards, certify law enforcement officers and investigate allegations of misconduct, the commission will be controlled by a majority of politically-appointed civilians.

And wait until you see just how political they are!

The governor will appoint a police chief, a retired superior court judge and a social worker. The attorney general will appoint a law enforcement officer below the rank of sergeant, a law enforcement officer picked from five nominations by the Massachusetts Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers, and an attorney chosen from five nominations from the Civil Rights and Social Justice Council of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Together, the governor and attorney general will appoint three other members; one must be chosen from five nominations by the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination.

In other words, civilians with no policing experience will now be policing our police, courtesy of the feel-good Massachusetts legislature, the go-along-to-get-along governor and the oh-so-progressively-righteous attorney general. But we're all in this together, right?

—Brian Genest is chairman of the Dracut Republican Town Committee.

ZANNI & PESCE
LAW OFFICES
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

RIVERA TAKES NEW JOB

LAWRENCE SHOULD HOLD SPECIAL ELECTION

HEROES AND BOZOS 2020

LInda Harvey and Debbie's Treasure Chest

Dan Rivera HERO

Dan RIvera BOZO

LAWRENCE CITY COUNCIL SPENDS MORE ON POLICE WHILE OTHER CALL FOR DEFUNDING

Randy Carter, ? Clear path new england

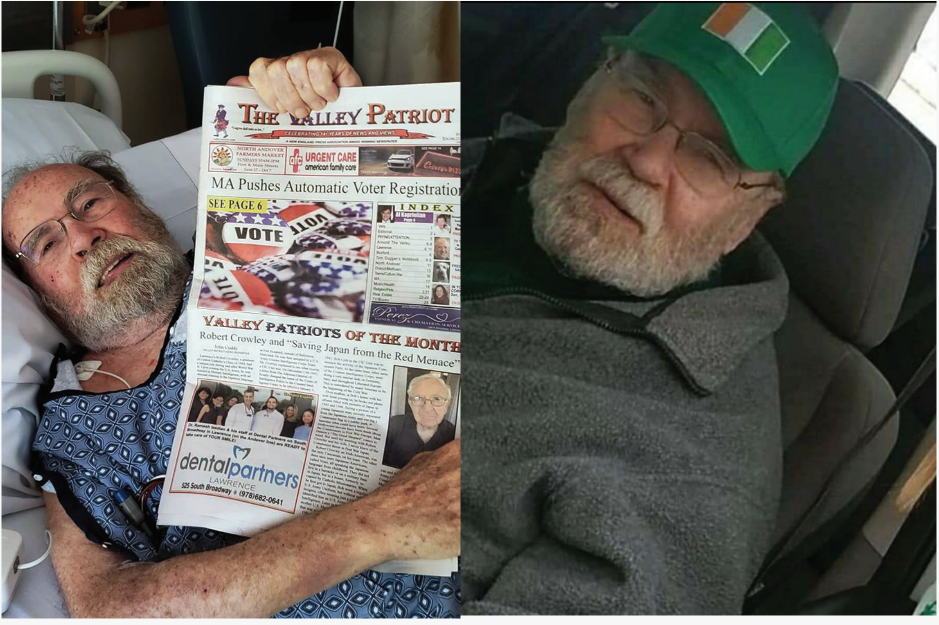
BOZO CHarlie Baker

NANCY PELOSI AND THE DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS

HEROS FIRST RESPONDERS

BOZOS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK


THE VALLEY PATRIOT
MA Pushes Automatic Voter Registration
VOTE
VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH
dentalpartners

Our condolences to the Carroll family on the loss of Joe Carroll who passed away late last month.

WINSTON SAYS!

Happy ... NOT 2020!

Sponsored by: THE DAILY DOSE CAFE at PENTUCKET MEDICAL IN LAWRENCE * 978-557-8601

NOTEBOOK: NEXT PAGE

ZP ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
129 Turnpike St, North Andover

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 14

KANE ON THE COUCH

The Therapist
Is In
Kane on
the Couch

Emotionally Exhausted

Let’s talk Mental Health During the Pandemic

Kane turned off the news the other day after watching conflicting information on the Coronavirus that made his jaw feel tense and his mind feel foggy. He was tired from overthinking. Wow we have been doing this stay in your doghouse thing for a long time. What is a dog to do with this information? Kane feels like his world was getting smaller and the virus, well it seems like it was getting bigger, or is it? Kane knows to stop himself when he goes down the rabbit hole of overthinking: This can lead to thinking about worse case scenarios.

Catastrophic thinking he knows is a waste of time and extended time in front of the news only makes matters worse. Kane decided to take a step for his mental health, he stays informed but then turns the news off in search of other positive ways to use his body and mind. Besides, those thoughts only go in a circle, it’s a circular trap with no way out. It goes in a circle like the toilet water his human will not let him play in. Kane from now on will stick with facts. His human has a magnet on the fridge that says worrying is like a rocking chair, you are doing something but going nowhere. (author unknown)

Kane is going back to basics. See, he has been in fight or flight mode for a while. He has been running through the obstacles like a sprint but the pandemic has been more like a marathon. He is prioritizing normalized eating (three meals and two snacks, dog treats in moderation) maintaining a sleep schedule, and walking 30 minutes a day. Not counting chasing squirrels, (bonus points), Kane decided that he counts too, so honoring his body with good habits is a priority.

He is trying to give up his habit of eating his poop. It doesn’t really make him feel very good. “I’m trying to be a good boy.” This is like watching his human trying to get everyone to eat more vegetables, we kind of ignore her, but she means well. Since nothing goes perfectly, Kane is patient with himself when it doesn’t go great, he tries to get back on track the rest of the day. It’s more like problem solving and being aware instead of judgment.

Sometimes Kane tries to get away from his feelings because they are hard to sit with. When he pretends, he doesn’t miss his summer neighborhood friends, his anger comes out in other ways. He tries to get in the trash, or hides toilet paper from his family, or he gets mouthy. When he acknowledges he feels isolated or lonely from peers he accepts his situation and can move towards his value. Kane did some research and learned that dogs are social beings like people, there is nothing to be ashamed about if you feel kind of down from being isolated, it is a normal emotion in an abnormal situation. Kane knows it’s important to stay in contact with others in his family and community. He tries hard not to be an all or nothing thinker so he has opened his mind up to talking on the phone, and zooming with his friends. This is better than no contact at all.

Kane also gets pleasure from helping other dogs and humans. On his neighborhood walk he lies on the ground when another dog approaches and says hi first. He used to be shy but not anymore since going to Camp Wignal for dogs only. He learned if you are nice to other dogs, many are nice back. He has mastered the play bow which is like saying a people hi with a smile. Kane knows other dogs and people are lonely too so being kind to others and sharing when Kane can be helpful makes Kane feel productive, useful, and confident.

Kane has been brave and has been trying to fill his time with new hobbies that he can do by himself or with other people in his family. He tried fetch but he isn’t a fan. His human throws the stick then he taps it with his nose and

KANE: PAGE 14

EKeys 4cars
8 Marblehead St.
N. Andover, MA 01845
AAA
www.EKeys4Cars.com
Why Pay More? We’re the Car Key Experts!
WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY!
SPARE KEYS AND REMOTES!
(978) 655-3135
(888)-55-EKEYS
Jim@EKeys4Cars.com
$10 OFF
Any Transponder Key
Not valid with any other discount
Limit 1 coupon per purchase & per transaction

DIZOGLIO: FROM 5

enjoy. The commission will advise on next steps, developing a plan to clean and maintain the river moving forward.

Investing in Education

Earlier this session, the **Student Opportunity Act** was signed into law. This comprehensive bill invests in our K–12 education system, ensuring schools have the resources they need to provide high-quality education to students across Massachusetts, regardless of zip code or income. The legislation marked the first overhaul of the state's education funding formula in nearly 30 years.

In honor of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we passed comprehensive **inclusive concurrent enrollment legislation** that supports public colleges and universities in their efforts provide higher education opportunities for individuals with severe intellectual and developmental disabilities. By participating in higher education, these students will be able to gain the skills they need to live, work, and socialize as independently as possible.

Health Care Reform

We passed the **Patients First Act**, comprehensive health care legislation to increase access to health care, protect patients, and enhance quality care. It removes financial and insurance barriers to telehealth services, requiring insurance carriers, including MassHealth, to cover such services in any case where the same in-person service would be covered.

Also in the area of health care, we passed **step therapy legislation** which establishes basic safeguards for patients required to undergo step therapy by allowing patients and providers to have access to a transparent and expedient appeals process which will support patients and their providers in making decisions based on best treatment options and a patient's medical history and characteristics.

We passed the **PACT Act**, comprehensive pharmaceutical cost control legislation aimed at addressing the high and rapidly increasing costs of prescription drugs. By connecting the need for greater drug price transparency with policies to improve oversight over the pharmaceutical industry, the legislation will put Massachusetts at the forefront of the state's efforts to tackle increasing drug costs. It will also reduce drug costs to patients and lower health care costs overall.

Also passed was the **Mental Health ABC Act**, comprehensive mental health legislation that seeks to increase access by removing barriers to timely quality care, providing the state with more effective tools to enforce existing mental health parity laws, and investing in the mental and behavioral health workforce pipeline. Now more than ever during this emergency, we have realized how vital mental health services are to our communities. That is why I am so pleased we passed this legislation.

Funding for Our Cities and Towns

Last but certainly not least, despite the economic toll the pandemic has taken on our state economy, we committed to no less than level funding for **local aid**, including Chapter 70 resources to our school districts. This was absolutely crucial for our cities and towns, who have this year faced countless challenges.

It's been a time of great uncertainty but I have no doubt that we're going to come out of this stronger than ever. I am so hopeful for the year ahead!

If you have questions about these or any other issues, please contact me and my team anytime via email at diana.dizoglio@masenate.gov or phone 978-984-7747.

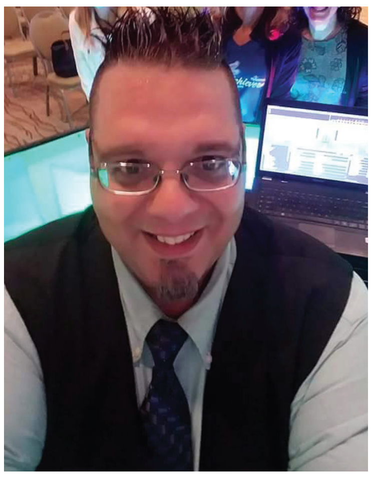
Yours in service,
Diana ◊

Climate Design Systems, llc
Heating • Ventilation • Air Conditioning
Save up to $1,600 In Rebates
LENNOX
Financing Available!
Exclusions apply. See Dealer website for details.
Expires 2/22/21
(844) 385-1883 www.climatedesignsystems.com

Your Health with Rick Bellanti

Happy New Year New You!

Rick Bellanti
HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST



Happy New Year everyone, yes that time again when everyone is gearing up with their 2021 New Years Resolutions and putting 2020 behind them. The stress from the past year is now behind us, even though we are still in the midst of this unprecedented pandemic. Yes, we are still trying to be accountable on our own but also helping others by remaining social distanced and wearing a mask in public when we can't social distance. Everyone's State has different rules and regulations they are imposing, and now with the vaccines rolling out, it shouldn't be long till we can get back to some type of normalcy. (We can hope anyway, and just stay positive).

2020 took it's toll on us on a healthy wellness journey (I know it affected me greatly, by my business pretty much closing for the year after 20 years). I lost the will power to get to the gym even after they reopened for business, and put on some weight (the 2020 weight gain).

Like everyone else the New Year brings a time for a new plan and a new clean slate, so here we are. Everyone's motivation for losing weight, working out and getting into shape will vary, but we all pretty much have the same goal in mind: being healthy. You may have a reason such as an upcoming wedding or class reunion where you want to look your best, or it could be something more serious like a doctors warning that you need to get healthier.

Some of the best ways to keep motivated is to find a friend to partner up with and workout together and by making the workouts fun, you will enjoy it together and help motivate each other. Make sure you always have a "before" picture, so you can always see how far you've come. Set and track goals it will help motivate you as you see your progress.

The health benefits of physical activity and regular exercise are hard to ignore. Exercising regularly can boost your energy levels, boost your muscle strength (which boost your endurance levels), helps to build lean muscle which burns fat, exercising burns calories, improve your emotional mood and promote better sleep habits (a huge one for me). You will feel better about yourself, get around much better and increase your chances of living a longer healthier life. It doesn't take much, as a general goal; try to aim for at least thirty to sixty minutes of physical activity every day.

Stay away from crash diets and also, skipping meals are not going to help you and in fact will do more harm then good. If you don't consume the right amount of nutrients you may experience blood sugar fluctuations which in many cases will lead to fatigue, poor concentration and mood swings, and bring on more unnecessary stress on your body.

Did you know that about 75% of people stick to their resolutions for at least two weeks and less then 50% are still actively working their resolutions within six months. The most common reason for people failing their New Years' resolutions is setting themselves up with unrealistic goals. It's something we all do because we seem to be a quick fix generation and want to see results immediately or we lose interest, get discouraged and just give up.

If your New Years resolution is to lose weight then don't set yourself up for failure by having unrealistic goals to attain, set smaller goals and each time you reach your goal, push it further again until you hit that one.

Please stick it out, you didn't gain the weight or become unhealthy overnight, don't expect results to happen overnight. You may have a bad day or two, keep going, string a couple good days together, then stretch it to a week, then a month. Let the good days outweigh the bad days and you'll be surprised at your thirty day results. And always: Think about why you started in the first place.

This is all about self-improvement so

HEALTH: PAGE 16

TARSHI LAW OFFICE
Personal Injury Law
Auto Accidents, Dog Bites, Slip and falls
TARSHI LAWOFFICE.COM
Auto Accidents, Dog Bites, Slip and falls
ATTY. JOHN I. TARSHI
Atty. J. Tarshi
Atty. J. Edwards
978-686-1821 24/7
Proud Valley Patriot Advertisers Since 2004!
510 ESSEX ST., Lawrence, MA 01840

State Inspector General: “Failure at Every Level” on Police Superior Officers’ Contract

Mayor Puts Police Chief, Captain on Administrative Leave with Pay

Methuen Mayor Neil Perry has put Police Chief Joe Solmon and Captain Greg Gallant on leave after a scathing report was released by the The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) regarding the approval of the controversial 2017 Police Superior Officers’ Contract.

In the 153 page report the Inspector General cites “a failure of leadership at all levels”, blaming former mayor Zanni, Police Chief Solomon, Captain Gallant, City Solicitor Richard D’Agostino, (former) City Auditor Kelley, and the 2017 Methuen City Council The report says that every level of city government failed the people of Methuen.

The report cites the following examples:

Mayor Zanni breached his fiduciary duty to City and the public with respect to the Superiors’ Contract and Chief Solomon’s contract extension.

The city solicitor may have breached his duty of care to the City by failing to review the Superiors’ Contract before Mayor Zanni signed it, before the City Council approved it, or even after Mayor Jajuga learned about the contract’s financial impact.

Captain Gallant acted in bad faith when he added contract language that had not been agreed to by City officials during negotiations.

Chief Solomon violated his obligations to the City and the public by remaining silent about the unapproved language Captain Gallant put in the Superiors’ Contract.

Chief Solomon did not act in the best interests of the City and may have had a conflict of interest when he served on the City’s negotiating team for contracts that increased his compensation.

Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon has long maintained that most chiefs in Massachusetts have their pay tied to the patrolmen’s contract and also negoatiate the patrolmen’s cotract on behalf of the city.

Methuen Police Superior Officer’s President Greg Gallant has long maintained that the additional language he added into the superior’s contract was the result of a request by (then) Mayor Zanbi to do so. Gallant said on the Paying Attention! Podcast last year that the langiage he inserted was “a clarifying paragraph” adding that “it didn’t change the bottom line figure it only explained it”.

The report details the failures of the city council and city auditor for not doing a cost analysis on the proposed contract changes before the city council voted to approve it.

“On September 18, 2017, no members of the City Council asked any questions about the Superiors’ Contract. Nor did any councilor ask the city auditor for his opinion of the financial impact or budgetary constraints the contract would create The City Council approved the Superiors’ Contract in two votes less than an hour apart”

Methuen POLICE

The superior’s contract, which the IG says overly inflated the pay of the superior officers, was due to what they called “artificial base pay” which was calculated by Captain Gallant to increase how base pay was calculated before the cost of living increases were applied. The cost of living increases were 0% raise in the first year of the contract and a 2% raise for the next two years.

“Based on documents provided by the City, for instance, the captains’ base pay went from $107,505 under the prior contract to $287,719 in 2017″

“It was estimated that the salaries of captains, lieutenants and sergeants would rise to an average of $432,000, $269,000 and $160,000, respectively, not including overtime or paid details.”

Captain Gallant addressed that on the Paying Attention! Podcast saying that those numbers are “fiction” and that the city is inflating those numbers becasue of the controversy. “We never asked for that. Period. Look at the language of the contract. That’s just wrong,” he said

The OIG found that (then) Mayor Zanni was told and was aware of the base salary changes in the contract and agreed to them. But, later in the report they reccomended disciplinary action against Police Chief Solomon claiming that he “knew” of the compounding language in the contract and failed to tell anyone.

The chief answers directly to the mayor and according to the report the mayor already knew.

The report also cites that Methuen City Councilors had a conflict of interest and illegally voted on the contract twice in one night.

Specifically, the OIG found that:

The Council appeared to have improperly invoked the Rule of Necessity by, among other things, failing to publicly identify the conflicted councilors and the nature of their conflicts.

The “Rule of Necessity” is a provision that allows elected officials with a conflict of interest to vote on a measure anyway if there are not enough votes to pass a cotract or proposal.

The former mayor and the Council violated City Resolution #4720, which requires a financial impact statement and a memorandum explaining the differences

POLICE: PAGE 14

WILLS & TRUSTS ARE WHAT WE DO!!!

Every day when we walk out the door, there is always the possibility that it may be our “last” time. You wouldn’t walk out the door without your wallet; if you fail to plan for your Family’s future, that’s exactly what you may be doing.

Paul D. Lambert, Esq.
Law Office of Paul D. Lambert

844-7REAL LAW (844-773-2552)
Cell 978-609-6420

LambertLawOffice.net

401 Andover St., Ste. 201-B, No. Andover, MA 01845

Wills, Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Health Care Proxies

Since 1990, assisting people with their Estate Planning Legal needs

Make Attorney Paul D. Lambert *Your Family’s Lawyer* TM

CALL AHEAD FOR A GREAT
TAKE-OUT LUNCH!!

Call (978) 687-2306
We Offer Catering
BORRELLI’S
Italian Deli
“Valley’s Finest Home Cooked Food”
borrellisdeli.com
322 Merrimack St, Methuen

MA Lottery Moving North Shore Operations, Prize Center to Lawrence

The Massachusetts State Lottery's North Shore Operations Center and Retail Prize Claim Center will be moving into adjoining spaces at the Stadium Plaza shopping center in Lawrence in 2021.

The Mass Lottery has agreed to 10-year leases for each of the two spaces with ACS Development Corporation, owner of the Stadium Plaza property located at 160 Winthrop Avenue in Lawrence, near the intersection of routes 114 and 495.

The sites were determined to offer the best value among all accepted applicants that submitted proposals during a mandatory public bidding process conducted by the Mass Lottery and the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM).

David Falcone, the Chief Operating Officer at the Massachusetts Lottery appeared on the Paying Attention! Podcast last week to talk about the move.

"We are excited to be in a gateway district area," Falcone said. "I'm excited, I have been to the new location on Route 114 in Lawrence. It's right off Route 495, so the acess is tremendous. We are going to have great signage there at the Stadum Plaza. So, its a great location for us. We are happy to be in the City of Lawrenc. We signed a ten year lease and we are looking forward to a long term stay in Lawrence."

Falcone told The Valley Patriot that the lease for office space in their current locaiton in Woburn expired and Treasurer Deb Goldberg wanted to cut costs.

"As a government agency we are required to go to a bidding process once our lease is up. So, that's what we did. We followed the regular process. We work with DCAM which is the Division of Capital Assett Management here in Massachusetts. We put out a bid, we reviewed those the proposals, and we are happy that it worked out the way that it did."

Falcone says that the new Massachusetts Lottery Office in Lawrence will be up and running by July of this year.

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera said that having a state office like the lottery located in Lawrence was a great assett to the city.

"This important investment by the Lottery and the Commonwealth in this lease is another great addition to the renewal of this gateway business district," said City of Lawrence Mayor and Chief Executive Officer Daniel Rivera.

David Falcone, CEO of the Massachusetts State Lottery

"Thanks to Executive Director [Michael] Sweeney, Treasurer [Deborah] Goldberg and all involved in seeing Lawrence as we do, a great place to work. The City and the residents appreciate it."

Earlier this fall, the five-member Massachusetts State Lottery Commission unanimously authorized Lottery representatives to enter into negotiations with the property owner.

Currently, the Lottery's North Shore Operations Center and Prize Claim Center are located in Woburn on Cummings Park Drive.

Operational functions at the Lawrence location will service Lottery agents located throughout the North Shore region. At the Retail Prize Claim Center, customers will be able to claim prizes up to $100,000 and purchase Lottery products.

All prizes over $100,000 must be claimed at the Lottery's headquarters at 150 Mount Vernon Street in Dorchester.

METHUENCARES
One Community—United.

Neighbors helping neighbors in Methuen!

Your donations of paper goods or shelf-stable items (pasta, rice, potatoes, beans) are appreciated. Thank you.

If you'd like to donate or have questions, please call 978-609-1866.

Mitchell Fired from Veteran's Northeast After Months of Chaos

Board Says He Took "Vountary Layoff"

Sources at Veterans North East Outreach Center, (VNEOC) – a nonprofit in Haverhill – say that Executive Director Ed Mitchell, was fired this morning after months of turmoil at the organization. Mitchell is the former Veterans' Services Officer in North Andover and was brought in to VNOEC after the passing of founder John Ratka last year.

During his short time at VNEOC, Mitchell fired veterans and hired non-veterans at the organization, turned away veterans in need, and banned some veterans from the property.

Last month VNEOC had to send out an apology letter to local mayor's and VSOs because of what they called "a poorly executed attempt to get local communities to share unused CARES money (federal funding for COVID expenses) with the non-profit."

Eric Nelson, President of the VNEOC Board of Directors emailed The Valley Patriot after our original story ran on Wednesday, saying that Mitchell was not fired. A letter from the board to VNEOC to members said that Mitchell took a voluntary layoff because of financial issues at the organization.

Under Mitchell, VNEOC sparked anger among local Veteran's Services Officers (VSO) who received an "invoice" from the organization for groceries and other services provided to veterans who live in those towns.

The controversy erupted last month because the groceries and services they provide to local veterans are already paid for by grants and donations.

After local mayors, town managers, and VSOs complained to the press that they were under no obligation to pay the invoices sent by VNEOC, Scott Forbes, CEO of VNEOC sent a letter to each community with an apology, explaining that it was a "poorly executed" attempt to raise contributions, and had no intent on actually "invoicing" municipalities.

"As a nonprofit with little to no margins when it comes to funding, we wanted cities and towns to consider investing in what we do here to support the veterans we serve," the letter stated.

"Yes, I'm here today to tell you that the execution of our message and proposals was far from perfect. We totally failed in this regard. VNEOC does not expect municipalities to pay for services they may or may not have participated in, and I apologize to any VSO that was put in a vicarious position due to the poor execution of our request."

"Our request should have been framed in this way: if your city or town has additional CARES funding that will not be utilized by the end of the calendar year, please consider supporting VNEOC rather than returning the funds back to the government."

"They made it look like a bill and anyone who looks at it quick, might think it's a bill, but it's not really a bill," Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini told The Valley Patriot.

Sources at North Andover Town Hall said that VNOC sent them an "invoice", one source who asked not to be named said "this is not a request for donations, it's an invoice no matter what kind of spin they have on it now. I think the bill we got was somewhere in the neighborhood of $18,000."

"VNOC has had a long history of helping veterans in dire need of help, said John MacDonald, an Air Force veteran on the board of Veterans Assisting Veterans.

"I know that when vets go there, it's because they have nowhere else to go. I would hope under this new leadership that VNOC will continue in the vein of John Ratka. Whatever for-profit model they seem to be moving towards – I hope it doesn't take them away from the primary mission of helping every veteran."

Forbes, the CEO of VNEOC said that in no way was his organization trying to profit off services that were already paid for by donations and grants.

CEO Scott Forbes will be acting as Executive Director.◊

Check Your Bank Accounts

Santiago Reyes Cruz, Jr.

VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Over the past few days- millions of Americans received another stimulus check. This time in the amount of $600.00. However, a recent statement made by President Trump on Twitter shows he wasn't too happy with the distributed amount:

"Unless Republicans have a death wish, and it is also the right thing to do, they must approve the $2000 payments ASAP. $600 IS NOT ENOUGH!" $600 is not enough!" said the President. Moments after, for the 1st time throughout Trump's entire Presidency, the nation joined in supporting their commander in chief, finally opening up their eyes to see that Trump had been fighting for the American People all along.

This was a great way for Trump to end his Presidency, confirming that we cannot trust nor depend on government for our overall wellbeing.

$600 dollars from the government as a Covid-19 relief aid package is absurd and insulting to all Citizens.

2021 is the year local communities must work together.

Organizations like Exchange Club of Lawrence & the Andovers are making it a priority to assist all people during these difficult times.

Visit their website and join the mission of helping people improve their lives! We hope to assist people find jobs, scholarships, food, toys and more!

Happy New Year

$1M For Struggling Restaurants & Families

City to Provide Meals for Residents

Lawrence Mayor Daniel Rivera, with Health and Human Services Director, Martha Velez, and Groundwork Lawrence, announces a $1M expansion to the Grab-n-Go Restaurant Meals Program that works in collaboration with restaurants to create grab-n-go meals for food insecure residents and those that have been impacted by COVID-19.

"This pandemic has spared no one. It has brought our restaurants to their knees and shown how fragile our community's food security is. So this only makes sense to support the restaurants and have them support the residents," says Mayor Daniel Rivera.

"The goal is to amplify crucial food assistance programs and get these meals directly to residents who have been effected by the pandemic."

The City will work in partnership with Groundwork Lawrence to identify and contract businesses to cater grab-n-go meals at $12 per meal, ensuring the quality and nutritional level of those catered meals, and create the networks to get the meals to residents.

To create these networks, the partnership will be implementing a meals delivery system to get meals to residents that are in need of home delivery due to a positive COVID-19 test and/or to health and safety reasons. Groundwork Lawrence will also work with Lawrence's emergency food providers to distribute meals throughout neighborhoods, creating local access points to food sources for those that have been impacted.

Any residents that visit one of our partnership sites across the city will be able to pick up gran-n-go meals for themselves and members of their household. Registration for Residents: COVID-positive residents who are currently in isolation, residents with food insecurities, and those facing other health and safety concerns may qualify for meal delivery and can get more information by calling The Center at 978-620-3550.

Some of the partner emergency food providers where you can get grab and go dinners: YMCA, Bread & Roses, Lazarus House, and the Boys & Girls Club.

Registration for Businesses: Restaurants that have been affected by the pandemic interested in participating in the Grab-n-Go Restaurant Meals Program should go onto CitizenServe. Citizenserve is a complete customer care program via online portal that allows businesses access to services including business registration, occupancy permits and other business operations essentials.

To access Lawrence Citizenserve, visit www.citizenserve.com/lawrence. For more information you can contact Martha Velez at 978-620-3550 or email mvelez@cityoflawrence.com

NOBLE
FINANCIAL GROUP

DOES MARKET VOLATILITY HAVE YOU RETHINKING YOUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY?

We think it's time to put your future in focus—not on hold. The team at Noble Financial Group can provide the PERSONAL ATTENTION and EXPERIENCED financial guidance you need to look at the big picture—then plan for it.

Expert advice is just a phone call, email, or screenshare away:

Noble Financial Group, 301 Edgewater Place, Suite 200, Wakefield, MA 01880

(781) 876-4190 · info@noblefinancialgroupllc.com

Horizon Home Care
Home Health Services

HorizonHomeCareMA.com

(978) 851-7775

American Training Creates Christmas WOW! Magic with Their Drive Through Snowglobe Display

American Training, Inc. invited members of the community to socially distance inside their vehicles and Drive-thru their 6 Campanelli Drive, Andover MA. location last month, to see their glass lobby transformed into a Giant Snow Globe, featuring none other than Santa, Mrs. Clause, and the Elves.

The front of the building was brought to WOW! Magic life with an LED light display. Kids got a chance to wave hello to some of American Training's most beloved characters from the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, The Wizard of Oz, and Neverland. American Training Inc. is a non-profit organization based in the Merrimack Valley that provides housing, education, training & support services to people with disabilities, youth at risk & adult learners who are looking for a pathway towards a more meaningful life.

T A

Sullivan Agency, Inc.

- Since 1963 -

Personal & Business Insurance
Real Estate

Voted 14 years in a row as "Best Insurance Agency" for the Merrimack Valley

LAWRENCE
978-683-4700

METHUEN
978-681-8200

NORTH READING
978-276-2300

tasullivanagency.com

Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA
01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com

COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY
CRAFTSMANSHIP

AFFORDABLE PRICES

MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT
CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier
Memorial Provider *

Independently owned and operated. Not
affiliated with any other corporation

Wedding Bells in Methuen

Don Riccio and Susan Foster from Methuen Mass were married on Saturday December 5th at Don's nieces home in Salem NH. Don was born and raised in Methuen and attended Methuen Public Schools. He is the owner of Romlin systems, servicing your computer needs. Susan was raised in Salem NH attending Salem public schools. Susan is the Activity Coordinator for the Methuen Senior Activity Center. Don has 3 children and 1 grandson. Susan has 2 children and 5 grandchildren.

Clear Path™
FOR VETERANS
NEW ENGLAND
SUPPORTING THE JOURNEY HOME™

Methuen Community Based Needs Assessment

SCAN ME

Clear Path for Veterans New England is conducting a community based needs assessment in Methuen, MA.

By completing our survey you are helping us achieve our goal of identifying the current needs of local Veterans, Service Members, and their families.

To take our survey you can either scan the QR code below with your smartphone or enter the following URL into your browser.
https://clearpathnewengland.formstack.com/forms/methuen_needs_assessment

We will also be available to administer this survey in person at the Methuen Senior Center on Wednesdays starting 9/30/20 from 11:30AM - 3:30PM.

Methuen Senior Center
77 Lowell St, Methuen, MA 01844

POLICE: FROM PAGE 6

between the current and proposed contracts prior to approval.

The Council violated the City Charter and a City Ordinance by voting to approve the Superiors' Contract twice on the same day. According to state law a contract must be voted on twice at two seperate meetings so that language and provisions in the contract can be looked over by the appropriate parties.

Then-Mayor Jajuga violated Section 4 of Chapter 40 of the General Laws and the City Charter by paying the superior officers under a MOU that the City Council never approved. That Memorandum of Understanding would have paid the superiors less money than the 2017 contract called for.

The former mayor and former and current city councilors violated the duties of care and due diligence that they owe as elected officials to the residents of Methuen by negotiating and approving the Superiors' Contract either without understanding the financial impact of the contract, or by understanding the financial impact and approving it anyway."

Nowhere in the report does it address city councilors receiving a city job on the police department as the result of their passing the superiors' contract. The report also never addressed allegations by city councilors that jobs were "sold" by Chief Solomon during the negotiation of the contract.

The report made several recommendations moving forward and applauded current Mayor Perry's efforts to turn around the city's finances and management.

"Since being sworn into office in January 2020, Mayor Neil Perry has taken important steps to improve the City's oversight and governance. For instance, Mayor Perry hired an audit firm to conduct a performance audit of the police department. He also created the position of Director of Human Resources to provide the City and City employees with a dedicated human resources manager as well as to update policies and procedures for the City. Furthermore, Mayor Perry hired an assistant city solicitor to serve as his legal advisor."

The negotiations and approval of the Superiors' Contract were fraught with multiple missteps by all parties tasked with safeguarding the fiscal management of the City. Mayor Zanni agreed to a costly contract without conducting appropriate due diligence, such as reading the contract (in draft or final form) or requesting a financial impact statement by an auditor. The city solicitor failed to review the Superiors' Contract, even after the City's budget shortfall came to light.

Chief Solomon and Captain Gallant acted in their own financial interests and, at a minimum, they were not forthcoming about unbargained-for terms contained in the Superiors' Contract."

Chief Solomon and Mayor Perry could not be reached for comment.

This is the first of three reports expected on the managemet of the police department in Methuen and the passing of police contracts. Late last year, the city council unanimously voted to start a 2-11 investigation whereby city counilors can hold hearings and summon department heads to answer questions.

Earlier last year Mayor Perry called for a management audit of the Methuen Police Department which has been completed and is expected to be released this month.

The Managemet Audit will take a look at the structure and deployment of the department's officers and efficient use of city, state, and federal funds.

Clear Path for Veterans New England 2021

As 2021 rolls in and the lasting memory of 2020 comes to an end, Clear Path For Veterans New England would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have come out week after week during this pandemic and help us assist Veterans not only in Methuen but throughout the Merrimack Valley. Methuen Councilman Joel Faretra, Councilwoman Eunice Zeigler, Councilman Dave Beauregard, Councilwoman Allison Saffie. Sara Morin from Greater Lawrence Community Action Council and her team of Volunteers, Sue (Foster) Riccio from the Methuen Senior Center who always goes above and beyond, The Team of S\M Movers Luis, Mark and Jamie for ensuring the food was here on time, Ruth Estes and her team from Methuen Cares, Methuen Chief of Staff Jana DiNatale for giving us a home in Methuen to not only assist those in need in Methuen but throughout Merrimack Valley, Tewksbury Veteran Service Officer Lisa Downey for Facilitating food box distribution for the towns of Tewksbury, Wilmington and Billerica, Vietnam War Veteran William (Bill) Laverriere USMC for making sure we had coffee, the Podcast crew of Paying Attention for helping spread the word and so many more who would show up to help deliver to residents in need or just to say thank you and give a helping hand . ClearPath has worked tirelessly since March 2020 to assist Veterans in the Merrimack Valley, there was no working from home or telecommuting, ClearPath has been boots on the ground since that day, Clear Path could only have accomplished this mission with the help of those listed above. This team was able to hand out over 2,400 boxes of food just in the Methuen area alone. Imagine if all groups could work as a team like they did. President John F. Kennedy said "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" well these volunteers did this; the sacrifice and unselfish willingness to help was, for lack of better words, amazing. We look forward to a prosperous 2021 and to continue to build Partnerships throughout the Merrimack Valley.

From the team at ClearPath New England For Veterans New England

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year ◊

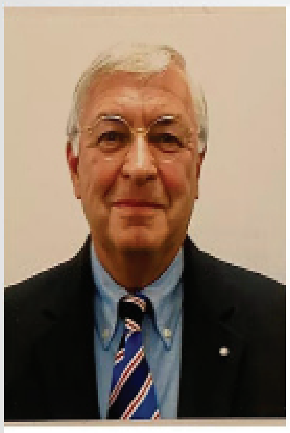
EKeys 4cars
8 Marblehead St.
N. Andover, MA 01845

AAA
www.EKeys4Cars.com

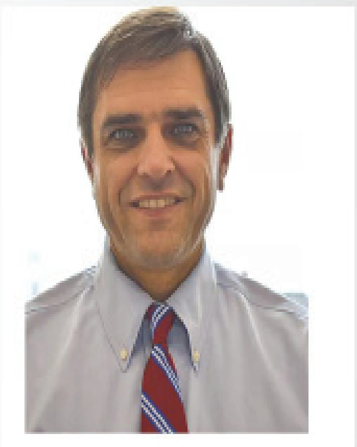
2020 TO-DO LIST
ESTATE PLANNING…IT'S TIME

We Make Estate Planning Your Easiest Task

- Free Video Conference Meetings
- Remote Document Signing
- Digital Delivery of Documents
  Wills
  Trusts (Simple and Complex)
  Powers of Attorney
  Health Care Proxies
  Estate Tax Planning
  Probate & Will Contests



Peter J. Caruso, Sr., Esq.



Peter J. Caruso II, Esq.

CARUSO & CARUSO LLP
NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. HOMETOWN SERVICE.

978.475.2200
68 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810
Andover|Marblehead
pcarusoii@carusoandcaruso.com

KANE: FROM PAGE 7

runs back, then his human runs and gets the stick. He finds this boring. He just watches her run around. However, he likes woods, walks, being outside in nature makes his world seem larger especially if he finds new places to explore. He also likes riding in the car. He keeps his mind sharp by learning new things at dog school and doing tricks for his humans. Really, he has known how to sit for 9 months but he likes the good boys he gets. Maybe his humans, don't know how to sit, but he does.

He learned that when he feels anxious, he tries to be mindful and find the present moment. Like Kane said before, sometimes when you spend a lot of time alone you think too much. He is learning to understand his past, live in the moment, and look forward to the future. Kane practices mindfulness by breathing, checking in and appreciating everything around him, and doing yoga. He sits on the mat and lets his thoughts and troubles melt away. He is especially good at downward dog. Pulling his human's hair and running off with the iPad didn't go over well. Also, nobody said "Down" so I didn't really know why she was lying there. It was good of me to try to revive her.

I guess being creative has a positive effect on the mind. To be honest nobody Kane lives with or visitors appreciate him opening closed bathroom doors. He truly thought he was using his thinker but it went unappreciated. His human friends write, journal, draw and some paint and build things. He likes to watch this and is careful not to step on their creations.

Anyway, signing out now for the month of January. Kane wants everyone to have a happy and healthy New Year and remember everyone is important and worthy of their love and affection. His message is acknowledge and sit with your feelings, find a hobby, stay connected, get back to basic self-care, do things for others, stay mindful, be aware of your fears and move towards your value, and be kind. A word to the wise get up take a shower and prepare for your day because nobody likes a stinky puppy. ◊

Pay Less For Home & Auto Insurance Premiums

Allstate
You're in good hands.

WE INSURE UBER AND LYFT DRIVERS!

Mortgage and Family Protection with Affordable Life Insurance

Our Renter's Insurance is Half the Cost Apartments Offer

Auto • Home
Life • Renters

JAMES SARCIONE AGENCY 16 Granite St. Haverhill (978) 735-3304
jamessarcione@allstate.com - May Contact by Phone, Email or Text.

Local Agency, Personalized Service | Serving MA and NH

EIS INC.

Consulting,
Firearm Training
Investigations
& Security

eagleinvestigations.com

978-692-5559

236 A Pleasant St.
* Methuen, MA 01844

Specializing In...

Firearm Training

$10 OFF with this coupon

Coupon Code: VPBFS072020 * valid until Jan. 3, 2021

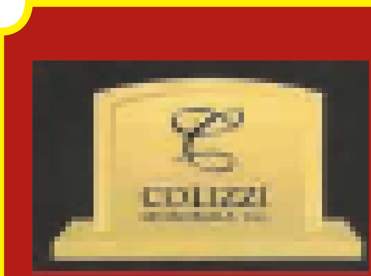
ZP ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES

BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

www.zannipescelaw.com

Free Consultation | 978-557-9700

St. Lucy Parishioners



Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA
01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com

COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP

AFFORDABLE PRICES

MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier Memorial Provider *

Independently owned and operated. Not affiliated with any other corporation

READY
FOR A NEW
LOOK?

WWW.ANDOVEROPTICAL.COM

42 MAIN ST ANDOVER, MA 01810 | (978) 475-6084
SERVICING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1975

AndOver Optical
Eyewear Specialists

Warming the Hearts of the Community

One Act of Kindness at a Time

Operation Warming Hearts, Inc started with Donald Jarvis, Tiffany Learned, and Paul Riopelle and has quickly become a community of people looking to do something, big or small, for their friends, family, and neighbors in the Greater Newburyport area. During the 2020 pandemic, there were many reasons to feel sad, depressed, and overwhelmed with anxiety. Many of our friends, families, and neighbors were hurting somehow. We have all been affected by the pandemic in one way or another. People may have lost their jobs, their business, a loved one, and some may have lost every penny they had to their name. 2020 proved to have many challenges for many people, but there were acts of kindness and reasons for hope. For the last couple of years, Operation Warming Hearts has provided a free turkey dinner on the last Thursday of February. Like everything else in 2020, that quickly changed. We knew there was a need in the community, but we needed to find a way to modify and adapt and get these meals out to people who needed them.

Operation Warming Hearts has made it their mission to let the community know that we are all in this pandemic together. Since January 1, 2020, the team at Operation Warming Hearts has served over 2,250 prepared meals. Working with several organizations, local businesses, nonprofits, and community members, our many anonymous volunteers delivered 2,000 of these meals using a contactless delivery method. Meals were delivered directly with no physical engagement or interaction with the people receiving meals. A phone call or text message was the preferred method to let the person know their meals were delivered. Several communities benefited from these meal deliveries throughout the year. Ipswich, Rowley, Byfield, Newbury, Plum Island, Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury, Merrimac, West Newbury, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Bradford, North Andover, and Boxford all received meals at different times.

Operation Warming Hearts also collected Brighten Someone's Day Cards and Holiday cards that were sent with each delivery. Members of the

KINDNESS: NEXT PAGE

LETTER: Thanking the Newburyport Lions Club

On behalf of the Newburyport Lions Club, I would like to thank numerous business' and individuals for their financial and hands on support in this year's Thanksgiving dinner.

For many years Newburyport Lions Club and its supporters have collaborated on celebrating Thanksgiving dinner with the community at the Newburyport Senior Center. This year's pandemic forced the cancelation of our well attended dinner. However, with the support of both members and non-members volunteers, we persevered and hosted our annual dinner by offering home delivery providing 350 meals throughout Amesbury, Newburyport and Salisbury area.

Our event was a success, in no small measure, due to the hard work of so many volunteers. Volunteers play an integral role; this year's event certainly required even more effort than in previous years. Due to the pandemic there were many more families needing assistance this year.

Specifically, we would like to thank, the Newburyport Bank, Paula O'Neil foundation, Newburyport Howard Benevolent Society, Institution For Savings and several individuals for their financial contributions. We would also like to thank the Table Talk Pie company for their contribution of 350 pies; Bucciarelli's Butcher Shop for their generous donation of vegetables and stuffing dishes; the Anna Jaques Hospital for once again cooking over 55 turkeys; the Elks Lodge of Newburyport for the use of their refrigeration to store and thaw the turkeys.

Additionally, I would like to call attention to Steve Nault, our chef, who has been working the kitchen over the past several years preparing all the trimmings and directing a team of kitchen help volunteers in the plating of the meals. Special thanks to Cheryl Munnick and family who again were instrumental with the planning and orchestrated the packing meals into the hot pack bags and scheduling 30 drivers required to distribute the meals. I would also like to thank our neighboring Salisbury Lions Club members for their ongoing help with the yearly event. Lastly, I want to thank North Shore Realtors for taking all the dinner reservations and their continued support with advertising this, along with many other events, held throughout the year enabling our messages to get to the community.

Bob LaFrance, President
Newburyport Lions Club

HEALTH: FROM PAGE 8

do it for you and at your own pace, no one says you need to start everything on January first and remember, you don't need a new year to make a change, all you need is today and think of how you will feel when next December 31st rolls around.

Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 125lbs since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here.

For Minute to Minute BREAKING NEWS
follow us on Twitter
@ValleyPatriot

LAWRENCE FIREFIGHTER'S
Relief's In Lounge & Function Facility
LARGEST FUNCTION HALL IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY!
PROUD SPONSOR OF THE VALLEY PATRIOT ANNUAL BASH!
1 Market Street, Lawrence MA 01843
(978) 687-9053
www.reliefsin.com

RELIEF'S IN
LAWRENCE, MA
F
L
A
INC.
RELIEF'S IN
Est. 1977

Methuen Village Assisted Living Community Goes Green with Mass Saves Program

Methuen Village has taken new major steps toward becoming an energy efficient community thanks to the Mass Saves Program. With decreased energy consumption and a lower electricity bill, the Assisted Living and Compass Memory Support community located at Riverwalk Park plans to free up funds for specialized programming and quality of care for the seniors who live there.

"As a community, it was important for us to find innovative ways to improve our building's appearance and energy usage, as well as our relationship with the environment," says Tracy Valletti, Executive Director at Methuen Village. "We recognize that we are so fortunate to enjoy the natural beauty of Riverwalk Park and be a member of the Methuen community, so we believe that we have a responsibility to promote energy conservation for future generations."

"Innovation has always been and continues to be the driving force of our community," Valletti continues. "We are committed to employing cutting-edge ideas in all we do from our programming and care right down to our building and grounds. To make use of the latest ideas in technology innovation and energy conservation is not just a natural extension of this commitment, it's also the right thing to do for our greater community."

To start the process, Methuen Village engaged with Mass Save to complete an energy assessment in an effort to minimize their carbon footprint.

The Assisted Living and Compass Memory Support Community worked with World Energy Efficiency Services of Worcester to update all light fixtures throughout the building to high-efficiency LED lighting, which cost just over $68,000. Mass Save paid for the renovations and upgrades through their incentive program for commercial and residential properties.

"We've been researching ways to become more energy efficient, and when we learned about these local services available to us, there was no question that the time to start was now," says Valletti. "We always love working with organizations whose value of affordability and sustainability aligns with ours. In addition to reducing our impact on the environment, the electricians we worked with estimate that we will see a substantial savings on our electric bills!"

Methuen Village is also undergoing community-wide upgrades and renovations, including expanding existing community rooms, installing all-new carpets throughout the first floor, and upgrading furniture and finishings. Those renovations are expected to be complete by the end of the year.

For more information on Methuen Village at Riverwalk Park, please visit www.MethuenVillage.com.

KINDNESS: FROM PAGE 16

community – adults and children alike – made these cards for us to drop off, and our friends at Beach Plum Flower Shop in Newburyport collected them for us. Such a simple gesture, but one that we know brought smiles to all of those who received them.

For Christmas, Operation Warming Hearts delivered over 500 prepared ham dinners with dessert. These meals were intended to serve as their Christmas meal and were delivered in re-heatable containers.

In addition to delivering meals, Operation Warming Hearts distributed for Christmas 100 wheelchair blankets, 80 stuffed Christmas stockings, and 80 knitted hats to Veterans. Over 65 Thanksgiving Kits were delivered to Veterans and their families for Thanksgiving. Operation Warming Hearts is currently hosting a clothing drive in partnership with the Newburyport Salvation Army for the duration of the winter. The clothing drive collects new or gently used winter clothing and can be delivered to 40 Water St, Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950. As a newly formed 501c3 nonprofit, Operation Warming Hearts, Inc. plans to continue to grow an extensive network of people who want to serve their community, give back to others, and wish to warm the hearts of their friends, family, and neighbors. As we go into 2021, expect Operation Warming Hearts to have many events and activities that bring the community together. If you would like to get involved or be part of an upcoming project, please contact Operation Warming Hearts via email at hello@operationwarminghearts.com and follow them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/operationwarminghearts ◊

planet fitness
planet fitness
JUDGEMENT FREE ZONE

Planet Fitness "Judgement Free Gymat the Loop Now Open

Planet Fitness, one of the largest and fastest-growing global franchisors and operators of fitness centers with more members than any other fitness brand, today announced its new club in Methuen is now open. It's located in The Loop shopping center at 90 Pleasant Valley Street, recently relocated from the 40 Jackson Street location.

Planet Fitness invites new members to sign up online at www.planetfitness.com or in-club. The club is open and staffed seven days a week from 5 a.m.—9:30 p.m. The new Planet Fitness in Methuen is approximately 20,356 sq. feet and offers the following features and amenities:

103 state of the art pieces of cardio equipment

Expansive strength and free weights equipment

Dedicated stretching and abs area

Training area equipped with PF SYNRGY 360 Functional Training System including TRX equipment, kettlebells and much more

Free WiFi

Upscale tile and granite locker rooms with private changing areas and day lockers

Private Black Card Spa for PF Black Card® members

Salon grade tanning booths and beds

HydroMassage loungers and massage chairs

In an effort to open the new club in a safe and responsible way, Planet Fitness will implement several enhanced cleanliness policies and procedures to protect the health and well-being of members, employees and the local community.

Some enhancements include daily temperature checks for employees, thorough cleanings will be conducted using disinfectant on the EPA list effective against COVID-19, increased sanitization stations available throughout the gym floor, touchless check-in via the free Planet Fitness app, and some pieces of cardio equipment temporarily marked out of use to enable Social Fitnessing™ and create additional distance between members. Additionally, Planet Fitness launched a Crowd Meter feature on its mobile app to allow members to check club capacity before coming into the gym.

Planet Fitness prides itself on providing a high-quality experience at an exceptional value and being home of the Judgement Free Zone®, where members experience a hassle-free, non-intimidating environment. Each club also features the brand's iconic "Lunk Alarm," which is a purple and yellow siren on the wall used to gently remind people that grunting, dropping weights or judging others is not permitted.

"This new location for our Methuen club affords us even more space so that members can feel as comfortable as possible working out. Whether you're new to a gym or you're an existing gym member looking to try a new facility, we encourage you to come check out the Methuen club, meet our staff, and see what the Judgement Free Zone is all about," said Planet Fitness franchisee Taylor Mandell. "We aim to create a workout environment where everyone feels accepted and respected, as well as safe, so that they can continue to exercise during this time when both physical and mental fitness are more important than ever."

The PF Black Card® membership ($22.99 a month) provides a vast array of additional benefits to members such as the ability to bring a guest every day to the club at no additional charge, access to all 2,000+ Planet Fitness locations, as well as access to the Black Card Spa™ which houses salon grade tanning booths, HydroMassage loungers and massage chairs. The Black Card Spa™ is a member favorite after a workout.

For more information or to join online, please visit www.PlanetFitness.com or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/PlanetFitness) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/PlanetFitness).

J & W Shoe Repair and Leather Service

All Kinds of Shoe & Leather Repairs
* Pocketbook Refurbishing
* Custom Shoe Dying
* Orthopedic Shoes
* Suitcase & Luggage Repair
* All Kinds of Zipper Repair
* Name Brand Pocketbook Repair

We are offering pick up and drop off services

We are offering 25% more volume on all gift certificates

23 Years of services to our community!
Please support your LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

139 Main St., North Andover, (978) 685-2325 - OPEN: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5pm & Sat. 8:30 - 4pm

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

Ocala campgrounds, and one-half mile west of the Farles Lake campground. F-18 jet fighters and other aircraft take off from nearby Jacksonville Naval Air Station, fly low over the Forest, and drop their bombs in the middle 450 acres of the range.

There are nine targets within the Pinecastle complex: in no specific order, the Live Ordnance Impact Area, Main Bull (Special Weapons Bombing Target), Day/Night Conventional Dive Bomb/Rocket Target, Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) Site Target, Strafing Target, Inert Ordnance Runway, Red Box Target, Mini-Convoy, and the Laser Target. The Navy's Pinecastle Impact Range in the Ocala National Forest is the only place on the East Coast where the Navy can do live impact training. The Navy drops nearly 20,000 bombs a year at the site, a few hundred of which are live. The Navy has used nearly 6,000 acres of the 382,000-acre forest for target practice for fifty years under a special use permit from the US Forest Service.

James "Jimbo" Lacroix left the US Navy Seabees after serving eight years as an Equipment Operator 3rd Class. He worked as an equipment operator in Local 4 of the Operating Engineers Union, then became a Police Office in the City of Boston. Dawn LaCroix, completed her enlistment as a Storekeeper 3rd Class, and moved to Boston with her husband after they both left the Navy. She initially went to work for Verizon, then later joined the US Post Office.

James LaCroix is a "triple hero", a Veteran, a Police Officer, and a dad. His wife is a Veteran and a mom. The couple have an adult daughter, and two sons in junior high. Their daughter and both sons love all sports, and play soccer, football, hockey, baseball, softball. When I asked the couple, what sports their children play, Dawn said immediately, "easier to tell you which ones they do not play".

Recently, I attended a Seabee Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser with James, the Seabees refusing to cancel the Rhode Island event, even with the current COVID-19 restrictions. This event not being canceled is a testament to the lifelong bond between the men and women who served in the US Navy's Seabee units, and the Seabees general disregard for following direction from our elected officials.

A "Red Stripe" Master Chief once told me, "there is a reason you get a medal in the Seabees for behaving yourself". Most US Navy Master Chiefs wear "Gold Stripes", awarded for twelve years of good conduct. This Master Chief, who oversaw my detachment in Subic Bay, Philippines. He was referring to the Good Conduct Medal, awarded to US Navy personnel who manage to serve four years without getting into trouble. This Seabee Master Chief was the greatest leader I ever served under, but off duty, did not have twelve minutes, let alone twelve years of good conduct. There was a reason the Navy stationed him in the Philippines.

Happy New Year to all!

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC! Veterans of all eras are asked to go the American Legion's Web site www.legion.org, and join the American Legion, preserving our Veteran's Benefits for future generations.

John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the Navy; he earned a bachelor's in history and a master's in economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 24 years. If you know a World War II veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com. ◊

SUE PIAZZA'S BOOK CORNER

Games for all Occasions
By Mary E. Blain

© 1909 By Brewer, Barse & Co.
Published By: Barse & Hopkins, NY
Genre: Non-Fiction
Bookmarkers 2 of 5

The book starts out with simple games, one a running game with Simon Says added. Then there are our present-day games with slight variations. Example: "Change Seats: The King's Come" a deviation on "Musical Chairs".

It is interesting to note the changes these recreational events morphed into given the industrial revolution and technological advancements. The advent of the phonograph elevated a simple sport where a person screams "Change seats!" over and over to someone picking up the needle on a record player signaling it's time for one to claim an empty seat.

This book is broken down into ages and special occasions. There are games for Tiny Tots, Children, and Adults as well as activities for special occasions, Washington's Birthday, St. Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.

Washington's Birthday elicited an interesting response called "Cherry Ripe". A toothpick with a cherry stuck in it is suspended from a doorway just above one's head. The object is to jump up and grab the cherry in one's mouth.

Many of the games are simplistic at best, at worst they are unsuitable for the age suggested and are potentially dangerous. Example: "Cock Fighting" recommended for Tiny Tots. "Each boy has his wrists tied together with a handkerchief, and his legs secured just above the ankles with another handkerchief; his arms are then passed over his knees, and a broomstick is pushed over one arm, under both knees, and out again on the other side over the other arm. The "cocks" are now considered ready for fighting, and are carried into the center of the room, and placed opposite each other with their toes just touching."

I read this section three times horrified that this was listed for Tiny Tots those younger than Children. While I do not know what ages fell into each category, I don't think this game appropriate for anyone thought to be younger than "Children".

An Adult example is: "My Lady's Toilet". Here the word "toilet" refers to someone's toiletries, to the items one uses in the bathroom and does not refer to the physical bowl itself. In this situation, a plate is sent spinning on a table in the center of a circle of players. The spinner calls out an item (gloves, handkerchief, hairpins, etc.) and the person associated with that item must catch the plate before it falls on the floor.

This book may have been a comprehensive account of games during this time period but its only contemporary use is probably as a historical reference or as a joke gift. While this read is interesting at times, it cannot seriously be considered a current consideration for today's gamers or for young people.

Susan Piazza, a Navy veteran, is an author, columnist, and blogger. She can be found at susanpiazzaauthor.com Her book, the historical fiction "A Bird Call That Isn't," can be found on Amazon at: Amazon.com You can follow Book 2's progress and read Abigail's diary excerpts on: Facebook: "A Bird Call That Isn't launch". Love to hear from you!

THE MILITARY CONNECTION, INC

*ARMY *NAVY
*AIR FORCE *MARINES
COAST GUARD

WHAT WE OFFER

*Health *Housing *Education *Strength
*Help *Support *Love *Hope
*Advocacy *Donations *Empowerment
*Honor *Dignity
*Referrals*A New Lease on Life

FOR MORE INFO
Staff Sgt. Eugene Smith (Ret.)
256 North Main St. Bldg K7
Andover, MA 01810
(978) 273-9255

MAKE A DONATION
The Military Connection, Inc.
C/O Bank of America of
Massachusetts
23 Main St. Andover, MA 01810

The Irish Cottage
Restaurant & Pub
17 Branch St, Methuen

GREAT TAKE-OUT!

Join us Monday Through Thursday For
Three Course Dinner Specials
Prime Rib every Monday and Wednesday.
Kid's Meals Only $2.99 On Monday's With an
Adult Entrée Purchase.

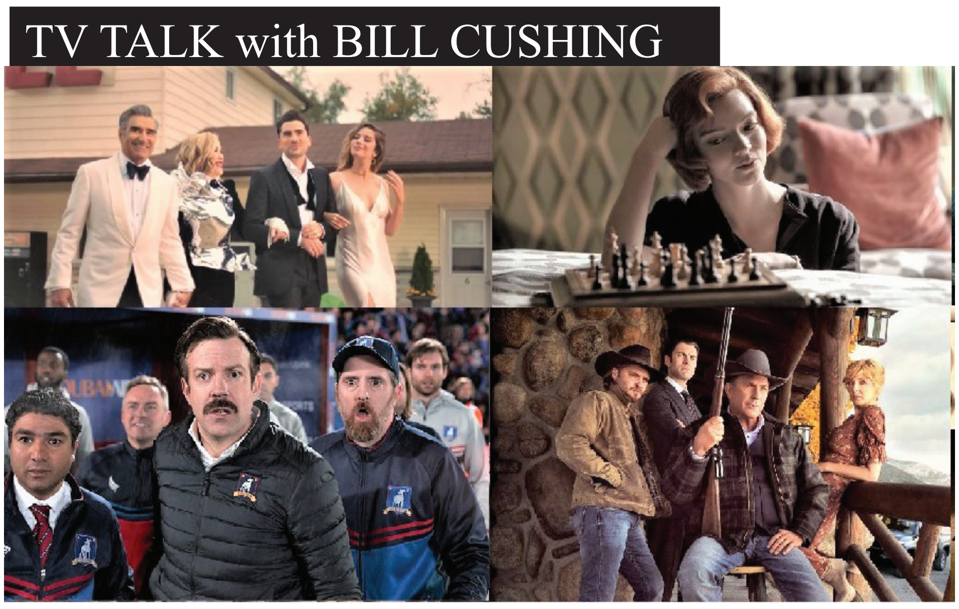
Unlimited Wash Plan, $35 a month
NORTH ANDOVER CAR WASH
Across from Stop & Shop
740 Turnpike St., North Andover
www.northandovercarwash.com

Pay Less For Home & Auto Insurance Premiums
Allstate
You're in good hands.
WE INSURE UBER AND LYFT DRIVERS!
Mortgage and Family Protection with Affordable Life Insurance
Our Renter's Insurance is Half the Cost Apartments Offer
Auto • Home Life • Renters
JAMES SARCIONE AGENCY 16 Granite St. Haverhill (978) 735-3304
jamessarcione@allstate.com - May Contact by Phone, Email or Text.
Local Agency, Personalized Service | Serving MA and NH

The Claddagh Pub & Restaurant Inc
399 Canal St, Lawrence
978-688-8337
Great food, Music and Atmosphere.
Great Charity Event Packages Available.
Private Functions Up to 600 Accommodated.
Call Paul
978-423-1001
Best Party Packages in the Merrimack Valley
#1 Party Package in Merrimack Valley
Private Room
40 to 80 people
Hint of Italy Buffet
Sound System and Mic
(Includes Weekend Access to Live Entertainment in Main Room)
Trivia Nights Wednesdays
www.thecladdaghpub.com

REAL ESTATE LAW IS WHAT WE DO!!
Are you a 1st Time Home Buyer? Empty Nester? Buying that Vacation Home? Looking to Invest in Real Estate? That New Dream Home?
GET THE EXPERIENCE YOU NEED AND THE CUSTOMER SERVICE YOU DESERVE
REAL ESTATE LAW
Paul D. Lambert, Esq. – Law Office of Paul D. Lambert
844-REAL LAW (844-773-2552)
WWW.LAMBERTLAWOFFICE.NET
More than 25 years serving the Real Estate legal needs of Buyers and Sellers in MA, NH, RI and ME
Paul D. Lambert, Esq. – Law Office of Paul D. Lambert
LambertLawOffice@gmail.com LambertLawOffice.net
401 Andover Street, Suite 201-B, P.O. Box 892, North Andover, MA 01845
Toll Free 844-REAL LAW (844-773-2552) Cell 978-609-6420 Fax 877-396-5164

TV TALK with BILL CUSHING



My Best TV Shows of 2020

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

It's that time of year again. That time when all TV people start thinking about the best shows that they watched over the past year. As usual, it was tough to leave some shows off the list, but here are my picks for the best TV had to offer in 2020.

High Fidelity (Hulu) – A smart, and funny remake of the 2000 John Cusack film, based on Nick Hornby's novel. Zoe Kravitz was terrific in the Cusack role as a romantically challenged record store owner in Brooklyn who ends up revisiting past relationships through music while trying to get over her true love. Unfortunately, Hulu decided to only do one season.

After Life (Netflix) – Ricky Gervais' touching series about a grieving man trying to move on after the death of his wife. 'After Life' continued to deliver just the right amount of laughs and tears in its second season, telling us that our real purpose is not to seek comfort for yourself, but to comfort others.

Lenox Hill (Netflix) – Netflix riveting documentary series followed four doctors at Lenox Hill hospital in NY, and the real life drama that they and their patients deal with on a daily basis. This series captured a wide range of human emotion and delivered a special episode filmed during the early days of the pandemic.

Bosch (Amazon) – This Amazon series continued to be TV's best cop show, even into its sixth season. Titus Welliver is perfect in his role as the title character. One thing the series does so well is the way it presents its dedication to the procedure of working a case, how each lead works to fill the puzzle in piece by piece. No police show does it better than Bosch. The upcoming seventh season will be its last.

Schitt's Creek (Pop) – 'Schitt's Creek' came to an end after six wonderful seasons. Each character received the carefully thought-out ending they deserved. Dan and Eugene Levy wanted to go out on their own terms and they did just that with a perfect finale that was followed by a sweep at the Emmys.

Yellowstone (Paramount) – Paramount's modern day western series about the Dutton family delivered a rousing action packed season, highlighted by great performances by Kevin Costner and Kelly Reilly, and a heart stopping cliffhanger finale to end its best season yet.

The Queen's Gambit (Netflix) – Anya Taylor-Joy gives one of the best performances of the year in Netflix excellent limited series about an orphaned girl who rises from chess prodigy to a world champion during the Cold War. A beautifully written and acted series with a great supporting cast.

Ozark (Netflix) – Netflix's top notch crime drama continued its excellence in season 3, with Marty and Wendy Byrd's riverboat casino scheme sinking under the weight of an FBI investigation. Jason Bateman, Julia Garner, and Laura Linney delivered their usual great performances, but it was Tom Pelphrey's work as Wendy's brother Ben that stole the show.

Ted Lasso (Apple TV+) – From beginning to end, Apple TV+'s heartwarming 'Ted Lasso' was the most surprising series of the year. This Jason Sudeikis-led series about an American football coach moving oversees to manage a Premier League soccer team is not only hilarious, it's bursting with an optimism and sincerity.

My pick for the best show of the 2020 is…

Better Call Saul (AMC) – Back in 2015, people questioned why we needed a prequel to 'Breaking Bad.' Now after a sensational fifth season, many critics and fans think that it has surpassed its predecessor. I'm not ready to go there yet. But every year I'm continually amazed at the brilliance of this show. There is no better acting and writing on television. Bob Odenkirk, Jonathan Banks, and Giancarlo Esposito are superb. But Rhea Seehorn, in her role as Kim, is consistently the best actress on television. TV just doesn't get any better than this, and I can't wait to see how the upcoming final season will end.

Also, in consideration….. Curb Your Enthusiasm (HBO), Kidding (SHO), Upload (Amazon), The Outsider (HBO), The Unicorn (CBS), Homeland (SHO), Defending Jacob (Apple TV+), Little Fires Everywhere (Hulu), Hunters (Amazon), The Undoing (HBO), Dead To Me (Netflix)

If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ◊

Prophesy, Pt. II

That the Church may Receive Edification!

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

God bless all of you and may God grant us in 2021 all the Hope and Happiness that we so desperately need!!!

Let’s begin where we left off last month in Part 1 of Prophecy by reading together 1 Corinthians 14:39, “Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.” NKJV. Why? Because God wants His people edified, exhorted and comforted! I can’t emphasis this enough! Please notice that the Apostle Paul places these two manifestations of Prophecy and Speaking in Tongues together because both deal with speaking and edification. Let’s read another verse, then I will explain. 1 Corinthians 14:5, “I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, **unless indeed he interprets**, that the church may receive edification.” NKJV. This is one of the verses some use to discredit speaking in tongues. They say, “see, even the Apostle Paul says that Prophesying is better in the Church!” Please look closer and read what is written! Prophesying in the Church is preferred because the message from God is in the language of the majority of the people present where speaking in tongues is not. **Unless it is interpreted,** so that the entire Church receives Edification! So, I submit this for your consideration, Speaking in Tongues with Interpretation equals Prophecy! Both Prophecy and the Interpretation of that which was just spoken in a Tongue produce the same results! Both Edify the Church which is what God wants. The Bible is clear, God wants His Church edified and He is very specific on how He wants this done. We must remember that The Church belongs to Jesus and he knows exactly what the Church needs to operate at its full potential.

Let’s move on and read the following, 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21, “Do not quench [extinguish, put out, to restrain] the Spirit. [The Greek word for Spirit is pneuma, which is the root word for pneumatikos, which we handled in my last column from 1 Corinthians 12:1, concerning spiritual matters. Things belonging to, determined, or influenced by, or proceeding from the spirit.] God would have us not extinguish spiritual matters! Then the next verse says, 20 “Do not despise [to make of no account] **prophecies”**. Why? 1 Corinthians 14:3, Because God wants His people, edified, exhorted, and comforted by way of prophesy. In order to make this happen, the next verse says, 21 “Tests”, [dokimazo, which means to approve: discern, examine, prove or try.] “all things”; What things? [Context!!!] Spiritual Matters! Another words, make sure that the prophecies that you are hearing are messages from God filled with God’s Grace and Love for us and that He is not against us! Prophecies must align with New Testament scripture! Then God says, “hold fast [keep, retain] what is good.” NKJV. What is good? Well, let’s allow God’s Word to answer this, 1 Timothy 2:3-4, “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” NKJV. What is good? God’s desire that all men and women be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth! That’s right, and since we have been dealing with spiritual matters in my last three columns, coming to the knowledge of the truth must include spiritual matters. Gods says it is good for His people to not be ignorant of Spiritual Matters!

Jesus said in, Matthew 24:24, “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.” NKJV. So, if someone brings forth a word of prophecy like, “God told me to tell you to sell your home and give him the money”, most likely it is a lie. If God wants you to do something like that, He will tell you first! Remember, He is also your Personal Lord and Savior! 1 Corinthians 14:33, “For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.” NKJV. Amen!

I am reminded of the Prophet Jeremiah who spoke for God the following written in Jeremiah 23:4, “**I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the LORD**.” NKJV. God wanted His people to have no fear, nor be dismayed and lack nothing! Sounds very similar to God’s desire for His New Testament Church today, to receive edification, exhortation and comfort! Jesus has set up in the Church how this is to be done which we read in Ephesians 4:11-12, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, **for the edifying of the body of Christ,**” NKJV. Jesus wants His people equipped and edified for the work of the ministry! Unfortunately, what we hear mostly today is the work of the ministry without being spiritually equipped!

Pastors love to recite Matthew 9:36, “But when He [Jesus] saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” NKJV. They stop reading there and go on with their sermon of telling us that we must have this same compassion for the lost! If only they would continue all the way to Matthew 10:1, “And **when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.” NKJV. Jesus equipped them with power to do what He was asking them to do! Shouldn’t Pastors and Church Leaders follow His example and equip God’s people today?

I conclude this column with 1 Corinthians 14:37-40, “If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. 39 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. 40 Let all things be done decently and in order.” NKJV.

God bless and love to all!
Welcome to 2021!
Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com

◊

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Hypocrisy, Insanity, and the Devil’s Playbook

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

It is bewildering how much comfort there is with inconsistency and contradiction today. We live in an era when logical consistency no longer matters. Truth and justice have taken a back seat to the attempt to fit everything into a man-made ideological narrative.

This is particularly evident in the many who preach tolerance and ‘civil liberties;’ and yet themselves are the most intolerant among us. Those who preach acceptance demand that everyone’s point of view conform to their ideology. Those who criticize this president for his course language are the same people who have been tearing him to shreds with calumny and slander every day of the news cycle since he’s been elected.

Such hypocrisy is easy to see across central themes of the day. Those who support feminism kowtow to transgender ideology that allows biological men to compete in women’s sports, creating an unfair advantage. Those who fight for the disadvantaged have no problem killing them before birth. And those who champion the poor are the elites of the Democratic Party who use them to maintain their power.

There’s more. Those obsessed with protecting children from abuse are often those who allow drag queens into elementary schools, allow homosexual “couples” to adopt them, and fight for hormone treatments on gender-confused children. All of this is child abuse, molded tightly into an ideological narrative.

We live in a society that condemns suicide but pushes euthanasia; fights drugs but over-medicates people; frowns on illicit sex but condones pornography; loves education but hates truth, and pampers children but kills over a third of them before birth. It’s no wonder that so many young people are confused and depressed.

Never has this level of hypocrisy and insanity been so widely permeated. As rule of thumb, when there is such irrationality and hatred it is not unreasonable to postulate a movement of demonic activity and influence. Such activity can be outlined in the following from “The Devil’s Playbook for Contemporary Times: Hell’s 7-step plan to weaken the Church and attack the world.”

1) Inspire the creation of the birth control pill, knowing it will cause a sexual revolution and culture of death, gravely violating human nature and God’s law.

2) Inspire the media and academia — the two culture molding establishments of our times — to persuade the masses to seek “freedom” from God by molding their minds to accept the lies of their ideology, in other words, to create a Secular Progressive movement.

3) De-fang the Church by infiltrating the clergy with men suffering from SSAD (same-sex attraction disorder), knowing that a SSAD priesthood will remain silent on sexual morality. Watch as the sexual revolution evolves into a culture of death and destroys the souls of countless sheep abandoned by their shepherds.

4) Listen with delight to the deafening silence from Church pulpits as the pill lays the groundwork for a fornication culture that inevitably demands an abortion culture. This will lead to a divorce culture and breakdown of the family.

5) As the family breaks down, make sure to use the natural self-loathing that comes from sexual sin to harden hearts and blind minds to the fundamental truths of human nature. Inspire politicians to have government take up the slack left by dysfunctional families – creating a socialist society.

6) As thousands of preborn children are slaughtered each day due to the demonic premarital sex culture created by the pill, and as suicide rates ascend to new heights, begin to emasculate men to fear feminists. Cheer wildly as countless souls, marriages, and families die due to the void in moral leadership left by clergy and fathers by their scandalous silence and lack of courage.

7) Watch gleefully as the western world commits societal suicide, imploding from within for lack of faith and a depopulation crisis that necessitates hordes of immigrants as a temporary fix, legal and illegal. Delight in the death – spiritual, physical, and cultural – due largely to all the fallout from the contraception revolution begun in the 1960s and 70s.

Post-script: Continue the relentless attack, and hope the Church does not become purified and strengthened once again. If Catholics were Catholic, we would have no chance. The Church has always been the only obstacle standing in our way, keeping our plans from succeeding.

Paul Murano is talk host of ‘Beneath the Surface’ radio and video podcasts, teaches college philosophy and theology, and is a staff writer/ producer. Check out Paul’s website at Paulmurano.com. Email him at PJDM@aol.com.

This ad donated by Kathleen LaPlante,
Author of “Surviving My Father’s Suicide”

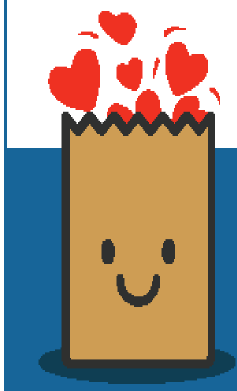
HEARTBEAT
Pregnancy Help Center
781-229-7887

ZANNI & PESCE
LAW OFFICES

BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

METHUENCARES
One Community—United.

Neighbors helping neighbors in Methuen!



Your donations of paper goods or shelf-stable items (pasta, rice, potatoes, beans) are appreciated. Thank you.

If you'd like to donate or have questions, please call 978-609-1866.

READY FOR A NEW LOOK?

WWW.ANDOVEROPTICAL.COM
42 MAIN ST ANDOVER, MA 01810 | (978) 475-6084
SERVICING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1975

AndOver Optical
Eyewear Specialists

Salvatore's
salvatoresrestaurants.com/lawrence

Inside and Outside Dining
50% functions!

(978) 291-0220 Ext: 1

The best of the best!

American Training's 2017 Life Matters Award winners

Andover Fire Rescue
Life Matters Award

Key Polymer
Company of the Year

Pentucket Medical Associates
Company of the Year

Autobahn East
Vendor of the Year

AMERICAN TRAINING

Greater Lawrence Family Health Center; Stoneman, Chandler & Miller, LLP; Andover Country Club; Vicor; Sofie Biosciences; Conlin's Pharmacy & Medical Equipment; Hanover Insurance
Outstanding Partners

WOW MAGIC

americantraininginc.com/event/GatsbyGala

Thank you to our 2017 Sponsors: East Boston Savings Bank, Eagle Services & American Eagle Staffing Services, Eastern Insurance, Hanover Insurance, AJ Simboli Real Estate, Inc., Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, Injured Workers Pharmacy, Northeast Networking, Technology Seed, Alice Petinge Family Trust, Autobahn East, Coady's Garage & Towing Service, Conlin's Pharmacy & Medical Equipment, Conlon Products, Haffner's, HB Software Solutions, Independent Tire & Auto, Jos Staffing, Krokidas & Bluestein, Minco Corporation, PestEnd Exterminators & Pro-Tech Lawn Care, Anthony Giordano of RBC Wealth Management, Simply Elegant Catering, and StaffLink.

American Training • 6 Campanelli Drive, Andover • www.americantraininginc.com

Menu: theirishcottagepub.com

The Irish Cottage
Restaurant & Pub
17 Branch St, Methuen!!!

TAKE OUT!
(978) 208-4347

Join us Monday Through Thursday For
Three Course Dinner Specials
Prime Rib every Monday and Wednesday.
Kid's Meals Only $2.99 On Monday's With an
Adult Entrée Purchase.

Live Entertainment Every Saturday Night and
Traditional Irish Session Every Thursday Night.
These offers cannot be combined
With any other offer. Not valid towards alcoholic purchases.

$5 Off
A purchase of
$25 or more. Not valid
towards alcohol.

$10 Off
A purchase of
$50 or more. Not valid
towards alcohol.

Vaso Patsi Hatzigiannis D.M.D.

Joseph P. Beninato D.M.D.

Located at Riverwalk Complex

354 Merrimack St., Suite 334 (Bldg. 1, Entrance C), Lawrence, MA 01843

VASO PATSI HATZIGIANNIS, D.M.D.
JOSEPH P. BENINATO, D.M.D., P.C.

INVISALIGN BRACES!!

Phone (978) 685 - 1499

OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Wed: 8am - 5:30pm
Thu: 8am - 5pm, Fri: 8am - 2pm

"Take advantage of our current market value"

PUT THE SMARTEST TEAM WITH UNPARALLELED EXPERIENCE TO WORK FOR YOU

The Janet and Sam McLennan Team

Century 21 McLennan & Company

Century 21 McLennan & Company

Experienced Pricing
Extensive Marketing
Wide Sphere of Influence Over 35 Years
Expert Transaction Management

All this means more money FOR YOU!!

(978) 604-0361 * S.McLennan32@gmail.com
www.teamJanetAndSam.com

Northern Process Servers
Serving all Civil Process

Ronald Bertheim
Bonded Constable
Notary

252B Pleasant St.
Methuen, MA 01844

Tel 978-685-0093
Fax 978-689-3377

northernprocess@gmail.com

EKeys 4cars

8 Marblehead St.
N. Andover, MA 01845

AAA

www.EKeys4Cars.com

Why Pay More? We're the Car Key Experts!

Your CBD Store®
North Andover

10% OFF
WITH THE MENTION OF THIS AD

ILLUMINATE WITH SUNMED™

Now Open!

North Andover
73 Main St.
North Andover, MA 01845
NorthAndover328.CBDrx4u.com
(978) 552-3545

*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. Products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Consult your physician before use. For use by adults 18+.

Four Star LIGHTING & ELECTRIC INC.

Installing / Repairing / Replacing:

Lighting • Circuits & Wiring • Service Upgrade • Generators
Residential Smoke Detectors

24-HOUR SCHEDULING

Now Hiring Electricians

Fully Licensed & Insured

Search Light Rentals

FourStarLighting.net • 978-851-4900

Ron Marsan & Son

General Contractors

PO BOX 2199
Methuen, MA 01944

RonMarsanAndSon@Yahoo.com

Ron: (978) 815-6935 Jon: (978) 764-2945

The Claddagh Pub & Restaurant Inc

399 Canal St, Lawrence
978-688-8337
Great food, Music and Atmosphere.
Great Charity Event Packages Available.

Private Functions Up to 600 Accommodated.

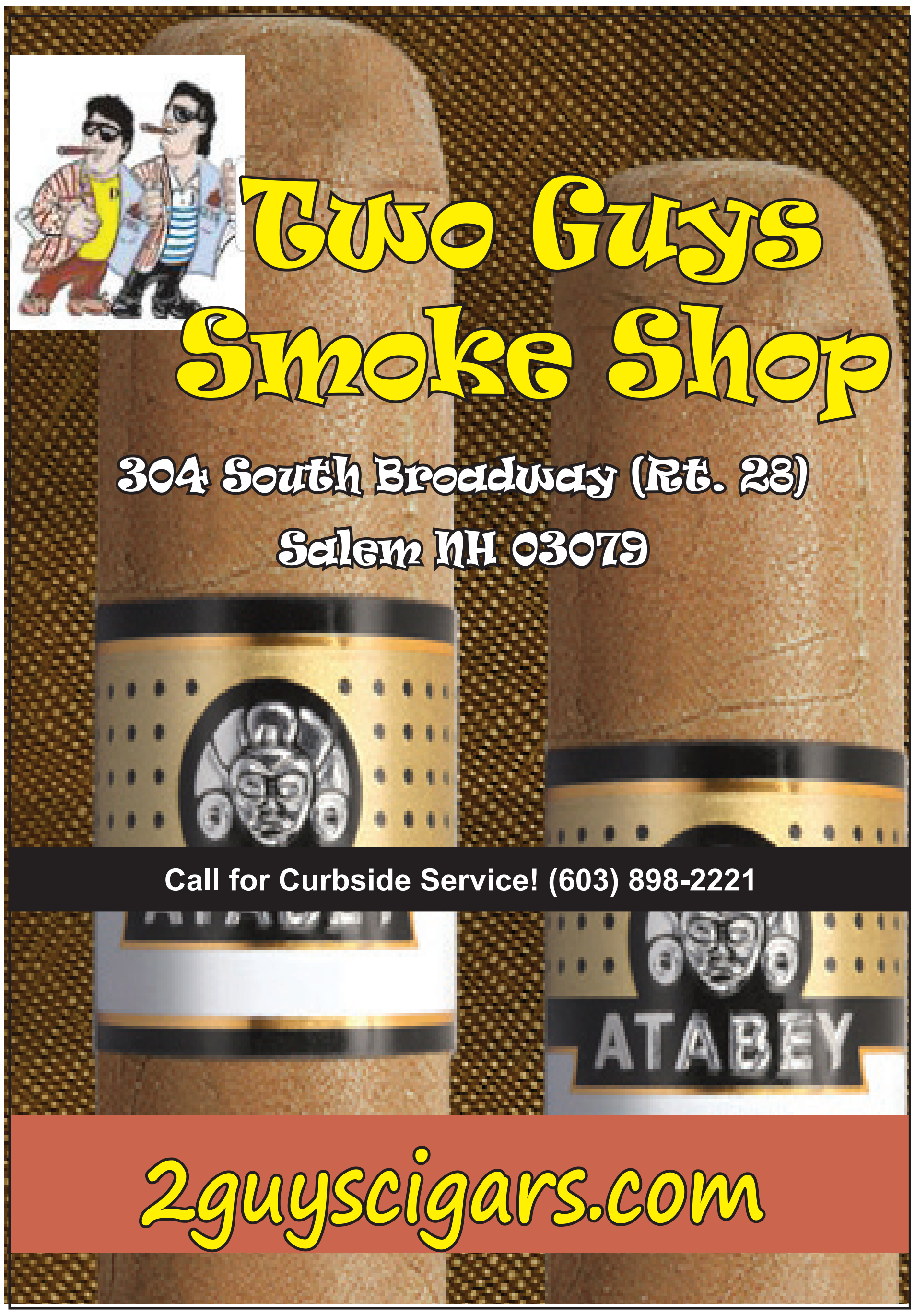
Call Paul
978-423-1001

Best Party Packages in the Merrimack Valley

#1 Party Package in Merrimack Valley
Private Room
40 to 80 people
Hint of Italy Buffet
Sound System and Mic
(Includes Weekend Access to Live Entertainment in Main Room)

Trivia Nights Wednesdays

www.thecladdaghpub.com

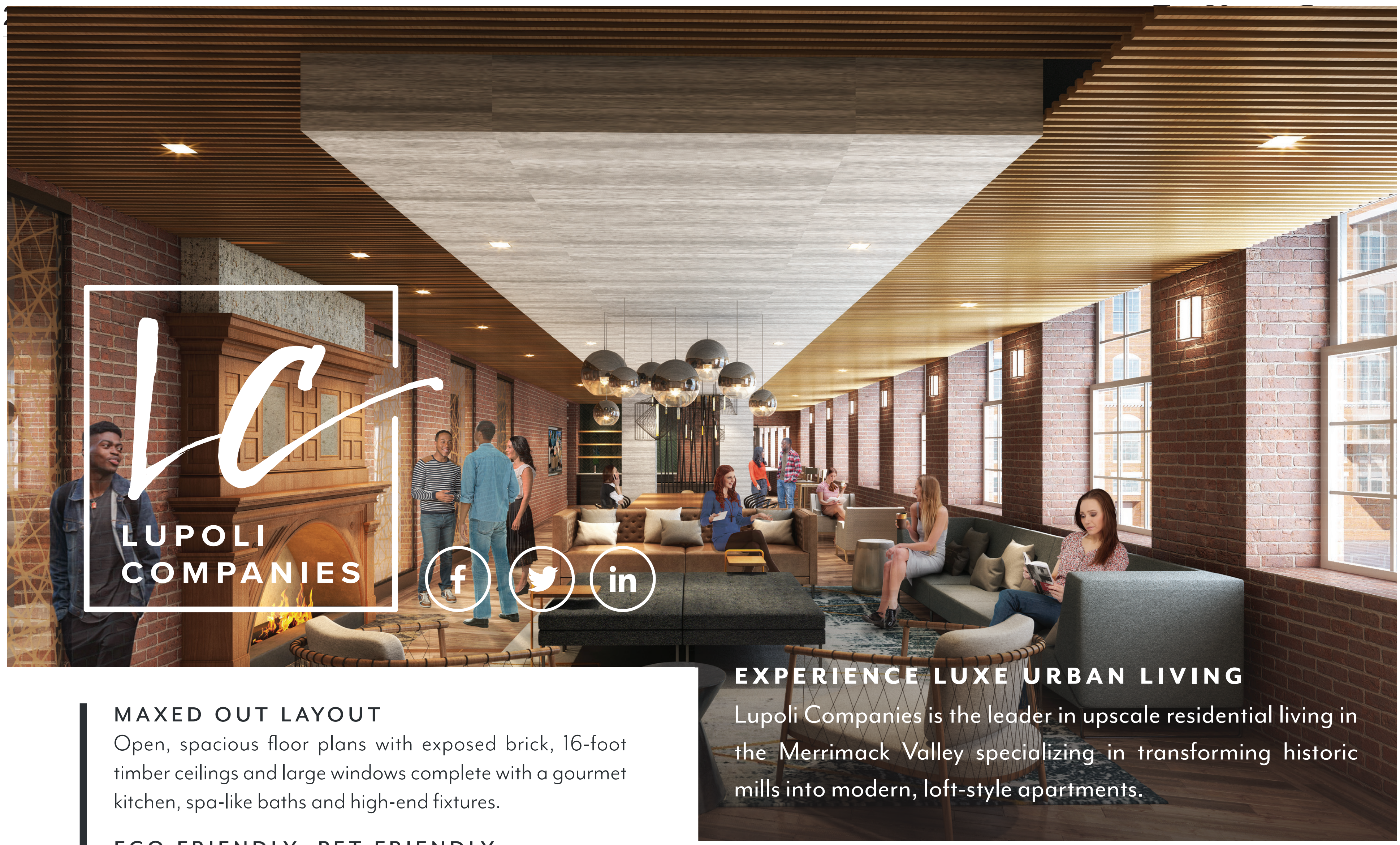


Two Guys Smoke Shop

304 South Broadway (Rt. 28)
Salem NH 03079

Call for Curbside Service! (603) 898-2221

2guyscigars.com



LUPOLI COMPANIES

EXPERIENCE LUXE URBAN LIVING

Lupoli Companies is the leader in upscale residential living in the Merrimack Valley specializing in transforming historic mills into modern, loft-style apartments.

MAXED OUT LAYOUT

Open, spacious floor plans with exposed brick, 16-foot timber ceilings and large windows complete with a gourmet kitchen, spa-like baths and high-end fixtures.

ECO FRIENDLY, PET FRIENDLY

Sustainable features and appliances combine with historic architecture and lush outdoor spaces to create a vibrant community for you and your pets.

ABUNDANT AMENITIES

Concierge living featuring dry cleaning drop off/pick up, fitness facilities, local restaurants and more, all walkable to public transportation.

UNCOMMON COMMON SPACE

Kick back and relax in our communal amenity spaces, fully equipped with the latest tech, pool table and big screen TVs, plus a full kitchen and lounge area to host a party or entertain guests.

THORNDIKE EXCHANGE

NOW LEASING

THORNDIKEEXCHANGE.COM

THORNDIKE@LUPOLICOMPANIES.COM

165 THORNDIKE ST. LOWELL MA

833.513.0964

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

RIVERWALK WEST APARTMENTS

NOW LEASING

RIVERWALKWEST.COM

844.459.3761

1 SOUTH UNION ST. LAWRENCE MA

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY